

OXFORD (OX)

OXSTALEV, OXSTALEX,
OXSTALWB, OXSTALW.

Batterton Tyack Architects on behalf of
The Rector and Churchwardens of St Aldate's Church, Oxford

St Aldate's Church

Oxford



South-west view of St Aldate's Church by J.C. Buckler

Archaeological Investigations during Refurbishment



Oxford Archaeological Unit
September 2001

Batterton Tyack Architects
on behalf of the Rector and Churchwardens of St. Aldate's Church

ST ALDATE'S CHURCH, OXFORD

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS DURING REFURBISHMENT

Report Prepared by: R Tyler (OAU)

Position: Historic Building Officer

with contributions from A Boyle and D Challinor (OAU)

Signed:

Date: 15th June 2001

Report Checked by: JT Munby (OAU)

Position: Principal Archaeologist (Historic Buildings)

Signed:

Date: 15th June 2001

Report Approved by: RJ Williams (OAU)

Position: Assistant Director; Head of Fieldwork

Signed:

Date: 15th June 2001



Oxford Archaeological Unit
June 2001

ST. ALDATE'S CHURCH, OXFORD
ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORKS DURING REFURBISHMENT

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SUMMARY	1
1 INTRODUCTION	2
1.1 Background to the Project.....	2
1.2 Requirement for Work	2
1.3 Presentation of this Report.....	2
2 SITE LOCATION AND GEOLOGY	3
3 HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE CHURCH	4
3.1 Background and Sources Consulted	4
3.2 The 12 th Century.....	4
3.3 The 13 th Century	4
3.4 The 14 th Century	5
3.5 The 15 th Century	5
3.6 The 16 th Century.....	5
3.7 The Extension of the Chancel.....	6
3.8 The 17 th Century.....	6
3.9 The 19 th Century.....	7
3.9.1 <i>The Underwood Re-ordering</i>	7
3.9.2 <i>The Christopher Rebuilding</i>	8
3.10 The 20 th Century	8
4 EXTENT OF WORK AND METHODOLOGY	11
4.1 Reasons for Work	11
4.2 Recording Methodology	11
4.2.1 <i>Sub-division of site</i>	11
4.2.2 <i>The drawn record</i>	12
4.2.3 <i>The written record</i>	12
4.2.4 <i>The photographic record</i>	12
4.2.5 <i>Osteological analysis</i>	12
4.2.6 <i>Reburial of human skeletal remains</i>	12
5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION	13
5.1 Area 1: chancel	13
5.1.1 <i>The lower (western) end</i>	13
5.1.2 <i>The upper (eastern) end</i>	14
5.2 Area 2: nave, north aisle south chancel aisle and south aisle (W)	14
5.2.1 <i>Early occupation</i>	14
5.2.2 <i>The construction of the north aisle</i>	15
5.2.3 <i>18th and 19th-century grave structures</i>	15
5.2.4 <i>The 19th-century re-ordering</i>	16
5.2.5 <i>Charnel</i>	16
5.2.6 <i>The font base</i>	16
5.3 Area 3: north chancel aisle	16
5.3.1 <i>Burials</i>	17
5.3.2 <i>Structural remains</i>	17
5.3.3 <i>Make-up and flooring</i>	17

5.4	Area 4: new baptistery	17
5.4.1	<i>Early burials</i>	17
5.4.2	<i>The Grave Catalogue by Angela Boyle</i>	18
5.4.3	<i>Results</i>	23
5.4.4	<i>Discussion</i>	23
5.4.5	<i>Dating</i>	23
5.4.6	<i>Charcoal Analysis by Dana Challinor</i>	24
5.4.7	<i>The Lateral Stairwell</i>	29
5.5	Area 5: External Investigations	30
5.5.1	<i>Evaluation Trench</i>	30
5.5.2	<i>Graveyard deposits</i>	30
5.5.3	<i>Later disturbance</i>	31
5.5.4	<i>The watching brief</i>	31
6	DISCUSSION	32
6.1	Evidence for Early Occupation.....	32
6.1.1	<i>Saxon occupation surface</i>	32
6.1.2	<i>The 'charcoal burials'</i>	32
6.1.3	<i>The cross shaft</i>	33
6.1.4	<i>A Saxon Church at St Aldate's?</i>	34
6.2	The Development of the Church.....	34
6.3	18 th and 19 th century Burials	35
	BIBLIOGRAPHY	36
	ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	38
	Appendix A: Register of contexts	39
	Appendix B: Details of shaft graves	45
	Appendix C: Inventory of memorials	47

LIST OF PLATES WITHIN THE TEXT

Plate 1:	The West Family funerary monument (©RCHME)	7
Plate 2:	AREA 1: Coat of arms on memorial slab to Sir Richard Holloway, d.1699.....	13
Plate 3:	AREA 1: Detail of typical 19 th -century shaft grave with intact, lead-lined coffin	15
Plate 4:	AREA 4; Charcoal burials 858 and 849	18
Plate 5:	AREA 4: Blocked archway leading to undercroft	29
Plate 6:	AREA 5: Excavation of foundation trenches for new linking range	31

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1:	Site location plan.
Figure 2:	The phasing of the standing church fabric.
Figure 3:	Conjectural early development of church (12 th - 17 th century).
Figure 4:	Known later development of church (19 th - 20 th century).
Figure 5:	Exterior elevations of the church showing historic development (S and W).
Figure 6:	Exterior elevations of the church showing historic development (N and E).
Figure 7:	JC Buckler; 'View of St Aldate's Church from the South-West' (Bod. MS. Don.a. 2. No.18).

- Figure 8: JC Buckler; views of St Aldate's from the east (Bod. MS. Don. a. 2 nos. 15 and 16).
- Figure 9: Extract from Loggan's map of Oxford (1675).
- Figure 10: Historic photographs of St Aldate's; (a) c.1861 and (b) c.1875.
- Figure 11: John T Christopher 'Church of St Aldate as altered 1862-3'.
- Figure 12: Site sub-division; excavation areas.
- Figure 13: *Area 1*: features exposed at east end of chancel.
- Figure 14: *Area 1*: details of former altar steps at east end of chancel.
- Figure 15: *Areas 1, 2 and 3*: General plan of exposed grave structures within body of church.
- Figure 16: Detail of Saxon cross shaft fragment.
- Figure 17: General photograph of nave at level of maximum ground reduction. (*Photo: David Stevens, Downland Partnership*).
- Figure 18: View of nave looking towards north aisle showing concentration of shaft graves in centre of nave. (*Photo: David Stevens, Downland Partnership*).
- Figure 19: General view towards south aisle, earth-cut burial 377 in foreground (*Photo: David Stevens, Downland Partnership*).
- Figure 20: *Area 2*: Footings of N aisle wall exposed in pier foundation pits.
- Figure 21: *Area 4*: composite plan of early burials.
- Figure 22: *Area 4*: stratigraphic matrix.
- Figure 23: *Area 5*: plan of exposed features.



ST. ALDATE'S CHURCH, OXFORD
ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF DURING REFURBISHMENT

SUMMARY

An archaeological watching brief was maintained by the Oxford Archaeological Unit (OAU) during reordering work at St Aldate's Church, Oxford (NGR: 451350 206000) between August and October 1999. The watching brief has revealed evidence for Saxon occupation on the site, an interesting development not only for the history of the church itself, but for the early development of the City of Oxford.

Internally, the principal area of work requiring archaeological monitoring was the reduction of the floor level by c.0.50m over the full area of the chancel, nave and aisles of the church. In addition, excavations for the installation of a new total immersion baptistery within the area of the south aisle were undertaken under archaeological conditions. Externally, a watching brief was maintained upon the excavation of ground beam trenches related to the construction of a new linking range and entrance building to the north of the north chancel aisle.

Evidence for Saxon occupation on the site was recorded in the form of a series of eight inhumation burials within charcoal lined graves. Little evidence was retrieved for the layout of the early church, the result of the extensive digging of later graves within the church and the fact that the excavation was limited to a large extent by the level of the reduced dig. However, a small 'island' of Saxon occupation surface was exposed within the nave of the church while a fragment of 10th-century cross-shaft with carved 'knotwork' decoration was identified, re-used within the masonry of the south nave wall.

It has been established that the 14th-century crypt beneath the south aisle was not originally furnished with a third, western bay as has previously been supposed, the space having formerly been occupied by a lateral stairwell. A total of 38 brick-lined shaft graves and one brick constructed barrel vault, all of 18th and early - mid 19th-century date were exposed within the body of the church. Shafts were identified within both the north and south aisles although the main concentration was within the central section of the nave. Many retained capping slabs while a number of examples were noted to contain the fragmentary remains of wooden and/or lead lined coffins. The exposed graves were for the most part left undisturbed and were recapped with concrete slabs prior to the installation of the new floor slab. Two shafts, containing a total of three burials, were unavoidably impacted by the revised floor design. These were emptied and the burials reinterred within the church.

Evidence for the 1832-4 and 1862-3 re-orderings of the church was recorded in the form of wall footings, former floor surfaces and a stone font base.



ST. ALDATE'S CHURCH, OXFORD

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF DURING REFURBISHMENT

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to Project

1.1.1 The Oxford Archaeological Unit (OAU) was commissioned by Batterton Tyack Architects to undertake an archaeological watching brief during the reordering of St Aldate's Church, Pembroke Square, Oxford (NGR: 451350 206000). Reordering work was undertaken by Latimer Contracting of Thame, Oxon. under the supervision of Mr. Fred Batterton and Mr. Marcus Howe of Batterton Tyack Architects.

1.2 Requirement for Work

1.2.1 The archaeological watching brief was required as a condition of a Faculty granted by the Chancellor of the Diocese of Oxford. The principal areas of potential archaeological impact were the subject of an advance, desk-based assessment '*St. Aldates Church, Oxford: Archaeological Implications of Proposed Re-ordering*' (OAU, May 1998), while the watching brief itself has been undertaken in accordance with '*Archaeological Recording Specification*' prepared by the Diocesan Archaeological Adviser (Munby, July 1999; revised 16th August 1999). A further Watching Brief was undertaken within the area of the proposed new entrance building.

1.2.2 The archaeological watching brief was undertaken between the dates of 2nd August and 5th October 1999.

1.3 Presentation of this Report

1.3.1 Following a brief summary of the topographical and geological background (§.2), a detailed historical development of the church building is given in §.3. Section §.4 provides a statement of the extent of works undertaken and a summary of the archaeological recording methodology employed. The results of the archaeological excavations and watching briefs themselves are given in section §.5, making reference to a series of technical appendices. Finally, a discussion of the results together with an assessment of their importance is given in §.6.



2 SITE LOCATION AND GEOLOGY

- 2.1 St Aldate's Church is located to the west side of St Aldate's Street (Figure 1), the main north-south thoroughfare (medieval 'Fish Street') which leads from Carfax at the centre of the medieval core of Oxford southwards over Folly Bridge (formerly 'Grandpont'). The site is bounded to the south and west by Beef Lane (formerly 'Beef Hall Lane') and to the north by the rear of the southern properties of Pembroke Street (formerly 'Penny Farthing Street'). It lies just within the defences of the medieval town adjacent to the former South Gate.
- 2.2 The site is at an elevation of *c.*60.35m above Ordnance Datum. The Ordnance Survey Geological Survey (Sheet 236, 6th impression, 1972) shows the area to be a 'tongue' of first or flood plain gravel terrace extending to the south of the centre of Oxford. The disturbed nature of the excavated material makes the identification of undisturbed natural gravel problematical and, where exposed during current works, the upper surface of the gravel was located between 59.04m and 59.69m OD. The subsoil overlying the gravels comprised a *c.*0.40m accumulation of mid red-brown silty clay, the upper levels of which displayed evidence of probable limited cultivation. The upper limit of the Oxford Clay was detected, during probing and Soil Window Sampling to the north of the chancel, at a level of 57.175m – 57.48m OD.

3 HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE CHURCH ¹ (Figures 3 - 6)

3.1 Background and Sources Consulted

3.1.1 The Church of St Aldate's is first recorded in the 'Chronicon Monasterii de Abingdon' in the second quarter of the 12th century AD as '*Est in civitate Oxenford monasterium quoddam, Sancti Aldadi episcopi venerationi consecratum.*'. The implication is that, at that date, St Aldate's was already an established church and it is probable that it represents an earlier foundation, possibly of Saxon origin. It has been argued that St Aldate's formed one of a line of three Saxon churches (with Oxford Cathedral, the original Minster Church, to the east and St.Ebbe's to the west) aligned along the north bank of the Thames just within the southern limit of the defended Saxon town (Blair 1994, 148). Successive campaigns of extension and re-ordering over the centuries have served to obscure almost completely its original form and we are left mainly with the evidence of historic plans along with scant surviving fabric to attempt any form of reconstruction of the early church. However, from the 17th century onwards a series of maps, plans, drawings and, latterly, photographs allow for the development of the structure to be reconstructed in some detail. The principal graphic sources consulted include:

- Map of Oxford by David Loggan, 1675. (Figure 9).
- A series of three drawings by the Oxford Architect and draughtsman JC Buckler (made between 1811 and 1827) showing the appearance of the church in the early years of the 19th century. (Bodleian Library MS. Don a. 2; Figures 7 and 8).
- A plan of c.1830 by Henry Jones Underwood entitled 'Plan of St Aldate's Church in its present State'. (Original in parish archives).
- A plan of c.1862-3 by John T Christopher entitled 'Church of St Aldate, Oxford before the alterations in 1862-3'. (Original in Parish Archives).
- A further plan by John T Christopher of 1863 entitled 'Church of St Aldate, Oxford as altered 1862-3'. (Original in Parish Archives; Figure 11).
- A number of late 19th century photographs showing the appearance of the church before and following the Christopher reordering. (Figure 10).

3.2 The 12th-Century Church (see Figure 3(a))

3.2.1 The 12th-century church would have comprised an aisleless nave and chancel (VCH 1979, 375) of which only fragments of a much restored Romanesque arcade survive, *ex-situ*. This arcade is of five bays with round arches springing from cushion capitals and originally formed the western part of the north chancel wall (it is shown *in-situ* on a plan of c.1860 with two small splayed (?Norman) windows over). The arcade was reset in the east end of the north chancel aisle during the 1862 Christopher re-ordering. It is possible that the length of this arcade represents the length of the original chancel which would thus have measured 6m. It also seems reasonable to assume that such an arrangement would have been reflected in the south wall and possibly the east wall of the chancel. No further fabric from the early church survives.

3.3 The 13th Century (Figure 3(b))

3.3.1 A square tower was added to the western end of the church in the 13th century (*ibid.*). Sadly, all trace of this structure was removed when the west tower was entirely rebuilt

¹ This historical development of the church derives in part from previously published accounts (VCH 1979, RCHME 1939).

in 1873. However, Loggans Map of 1675 and JC Buckler's 'View of St Aldates Church from the south-west' (Figure 7) presumably portray the 13th-century structure and, as such, give an indication of the original appearance of the tower prior to the Victorian rebuilding.

3.4 The 14th Century (Figure 3(c))

3.4.1 In the early 14th century (c.1334), the south aisle of the church was formed by the addition of a three bay chantry chapel to the south side of the nave by Sir John of Docklington, five times Mayor of Oxford. The chapel measured c.14m (E/W) x 5.35m (N/S) and included a two bay, vaulted undercroft beneath the eastern two bays of the aisle. The south wall of the aisle originally displayed three windows of uniform design (of three trefoiled lights with reticulated tracery, two-centred heads with labels) separated externally by stepped buttresses which marked the interior bay divisions. The main east window was similarly furnished with reticulated tracery which survives within the extant structure (see §.3.9.2).

3.4.2 The vaulting of the crypt is of quadripartite form with deeply chamfered ribs which continue down the walls as grouped responds. Current excavations have indicated that the crypt was not originally furnished with a third, western bay as has previously been suggested (e.g. Pevsner 1974, 287). However, a formerly blocked doorway with two-centred head, located in the west wall of the crypt², originally provided access via a lateral stair running against the south wall of the third 'bay' ascending to a ground level door in the west wall of the aisle (indicated on Buckler's drawing of 'The South-West view of St Aldate's Church'; Figure 7).

3.5 The 15th Century (Figure 3(d))

3.5.1 The 15th century saw the further enlargement of the church with the addition, in 1456, of a northern aisle in the form of a two bay chantry chapel measuring 15m (E/W) x 5m (N/S) appended to the north side of the nave (the western two bays of the present north aisle). The work was undertaken by Philip Polton, fellow of All Souls and Archdeacon of Gloucester. This chapel remained separated from the nave until 1581 when the north arcade was created (an event commemorated in a small plaque currently located at the west end of the aisle which reads 'W.F. These pilers were made A.D.1581').

3.5.2 The north wall was furnished with two windows of three cinquefoil ogee lights with vertical tracery within four centred heads with moulded jambs and labels divided externally by stepped buttresses marking the interior bay divisions. It is probable that the original east window of the aisle is that which survives today in the extended north aisle wall (re-set in the refurbishment of 1832-4): it is stylistically similar to those described above though it is of slightly smaller proportions and has a flatter, four-centred head.

3.4.3 Bucklers drawing from the south-west indicates that the western window of the south aisle wall was remade in perpendicular style. Given the similarity of style, it would be reasonable most reasonably at the same time as the construction of the north aisle.

3.6 The 16th century (Figure 3(e))

3.6.1 In the early 16th century, an upper storey was added to the south aisle, being used as a library by Broadgates Hall (later Pembroke College). This upper storey was removed

² This door has been re-opened during current works.

during the Underwood reordering of 1832 (see §.3.9.1), though its appearance can be ascertained in some detail from the three Buckler drawings of the early 19th century (Figures 7 and 8). The height of the aisle to the ridge would appear to be much in accordance with the present height (compare Figures 8b and 10a), the gable was however of much shallower pitch (c.17° from horizontal) compared to the 19th century aisle (53° from the horizontal). This would allow for an additional wall height of 2.8m above existing parapet level for the upper storey of the aisle. The eastern gable and southern parapet were crenellated. The south elevation was furnished with six evenly set window openings within square heads; the form of the windows is not clear from the drawings though some indication may be given by the form of the single upper window of the eastern gable which is of three trefoiled lights with pierced spandrels within a square head. The upper storey was accessed by an octagonal stair turret attached at the SW corner of the aisle, evident on Buckler's drawings as well as on Underwood's pre-works plan of c.1830.

3.7 The Extension of the Chancel

3.7.1 The phasing of the development of the chancel is unclear. As has been noted above (§.3.2), it seems reasonable to suggest that the original 12th-century chancel was c.6m long, and was flanked to north and south by five-bay Romanesque blind arcades. At some point, the chancel was extended eastwards doubling its length to its present 11.9m. However, the loss of fabric during the 1862 rebuild (specifically, the replacement of the western 6.5m of the north and south chancel walls by two-bay open arcades giving onto the newly formed chancel aisles) makes the date of this extension difficult to define with any certainty. It has been suggested (Eeles 1946) that this event may have occurred as early as the 13th century. This supposition was based upon stylistic evidence, in particular of the single-light window in the extended north chancel wall. The style of this window is early gothic (stylistically 12th century); the stonework, however, is quite obviously of recent date and little may be inferred from its form (see §.3.9.2, fn.4).

3.7.2 In the eastern surviving section of the south chancel wall is a window of three trefoiled lights with pierced spandrels set, significantly, within a square head with moulded hood; internally it is splayed with a moulded rear-arch. Again, much of the stonework appears to be relatively modern though it should be noted that the internal splays may be of some antiquity. Buckler's drawing of 'St Aldate's Church from the east' (Figure 8) shows two further windows of similar form in the bays west of the surviving example, and the similarity of these windows to that shown lighting the upper storey of the south aisle (early 16th-century in date) should be noted. Further, this drawing shows the pre-Underwood east chancel window which is of five trefoiled-lights with perpendicular tracery within a two-centred head. Finally, a series of stone corbels of c.1500 survive in the chancel and north aisle (RCHME, 1939, 128) and it would thus appear reasonable, from this evidence, to suggest a date of the 15th or early 16th century for the extension of the chancel to its present length.

3.8 The 17th century (see Figure 3(f)).

3.8.1 During the 17th century, a small family mortuary chapel was appended to the south side of the chancel by John West of Hampton Poyle, a former parishioner who, along with his wife Mary and daughter Ann, is commemorated in the fine marble wall monument (RCHME, 1939, pl.29; see Plate 1) reset in the north wall of the west tower during the current reordering. A south porch (within the area of the third bay of the south aisle) was also added during the 17th century. Buckler's drawing (Figure 7) depicts a porch of classical design, comprising a round headed doorway flanked by applied pilasters supporting a simple entablature. Both of these features survived up

until 1862 and are well documented in plans, drawings and photographic sources (see, for example, Figure 10). A depiction of St Aldate's Church in the later 17th century is provided by Loggan's map of 1675 (Figure 9). Loggan's plan shows the church with a short, two bay north aisle (as built in 1456) and a chancel, apparently of smaller proportions than that which stands today.³ To the north of the chancel, the map appears to indicate a small enclosed garden bounded to the east by a north-south aligned, single-storey gabled building and to the north by a low wall. The churchyard is bounded to the south and west by a wall with a central gateway giving to the street to the south; to the north by a series of buildings fronting onto Pembroke Street (with access via an archway the eastern end of the street) and to the east by a further range of houses fronting onto St Aldate's. These latter houses, late medieval or post-medieval in origin, are listed in Salter's *Survey of Oxford* as 'four tenements' in 1626 (Tenement SW95); that on the corner of Pembroke Street as 'The Church House' (SW96), a double tenement with passageway to the west, sold under the Oxford Pavings Act in 1831. This range of buildings were demolished in the early 19th century, but were thankfully recorded before demolition in two drawings by the Oxford architect JC Buckler (see Figure 8). It is interesting to note that in the second drawing the chancel would appear to have no roof perhaps indicating that works related to the Underwood reordering had begun at the time this drawing was made (ie. before 1827).



PLATE 1: Monument to John West, his wife Mary and daughter Ann. (RCHME, 1939).

3.9 The 19th Century

3.9.1 *The Underwood Reordering*

3.9.1.1 In 1832 and 1843, a scheme of re-ordering was undertaken by Henry Jones Underwood, architect of Oxford Prison and St. Paul's, Walton Street among other buildings. An original plan in the parish archives shows the extent of the building before Underwood's work. This programme of work involved the eastern extension of the north aisle by c.7m to the full length of the nave. It would appear reasonable to suggest that the original 15th-century east window of the aisle was reset in the newly extended north wall during this phase of work. Photographic sources (Figure 10) indicate that the upper storey of the south aisle was also removed during this phase of work.

³ The shortening of the chancel may be the result of cartographic licence, evident elsewhere in Loggan, and need not imply a short chancel at this date. Other graphic sources suggest that the chancel was extended to its current length in the 15th or 16th century (see §3.7 above).

3.9.2 *The Christopher Rebuilding*

3.9.2.1 In 1862, a major campaign of building was instigated by the evangelical A.M.W. Christopher (rector 1859-1905) with a view to enlarging the church and doubling its seating capacity (Reynolds 1967, 124). This work was undertaken by the Rector's cousin John T. Christopher and comprised not so much a re-ordering as an extensive rebuilding exercise resulting in the loss of much historic fabric; the extent of Christopher's work is evident from the architects plan of 1863 (Figure 11). The principal objective of increasing capacity was achieved by the extension of the north and south aisles and a radical change in seating arrangements. The north aisle was extended eastwards by 8.5m to flank the western part of the chancel, the western part of the north chancel wall being replaced by a two-bay open arcade.⁴ At the west end of the aisle, a new vestry (5m x 5m) was created to the north of the west tower. The south aisle was similarly extended to flank the western part of the chancel, necessitating the dismantling of the original east wall and the demolition of the 17th-century West family mortuary chapel. The upper part of the 14th-century east window, with fine reticulated tracery, was retained in its original position and survives today as screen above the arch which divides the aisle proper from the extended chancel aisle. At the west end, the south aisle was further extended to the full length of the nave, resulting in the loss of the 17th-century south porch. Internally, both aisle arcades were entirely rebuilt in four bays supported on slender columns of pink Aberdeen marble with simple stone bases and crisp, stiff-leaf capitals; the nave and aisle roofs were replaced and a new chancel arch formed.

3.9.2.2 Subsequently, the west tower was completely rebuilt in 1873 on the site of a 13th-century precursor. It measures c.7.5m x 7.5m in plan, with stepped, diagonal buttresses to NW and SW (encased within 1960's work at ground floor level, see §.3.10.4), and stands 19m tall to a crenellated parapet above which rises an 18m tall octagonal spire. Access to the upper levels of the tower is via a spiral stair, within the width of the south wall at ground level, which rises as an external turret to a height of 13m. The upper level (bell stage) of the tower displays uniform fenestration to each elevation; two cinquefoil lights with vertical tracery within two-centred heads. A photograph of c.1861 (Figure 10) shows the simpler form of the tower before the Christopher rebuild.

3.10 **The 20th century**

The twentieth century has seen a further series of changes to the interior, and the extension of the church to the west with a series of single storey buildings around the base of the tower.

3.10.1 The pulpit was moved from the south to the north side of the chancel arch in 1905, and at the same time an extra step was provided for the Communion Table, and the clergy seats and choir stalls were rearranged, by the architect Mardon Mowbray.⁵ Some changes were made in commemoration of Canon Christopher: a new east window in 1913 designed by Harold Rogers, and oak communion rails and a memorial tablet in 1916.⁶ The south chancel aisle was fitted up as a chapel in 1918, and in 1920 an oak reredos was installed in the chancel in memory of parishioners killed in the war to the design of Harold Rogers.⁷ This is presumably the existing reredos, which obscures the arcade with texts, and is free-standing behind the altar.

⁴ It should be noted that Christopher's plan indicates that the whole of the north chancel wall was rebuilt at this time.

⁵ Faculty dated 13 September 1905 (MS Dioc. Papers c.1922).

⁶ Reynolds, 372-4; faculties dated 20 October 1913 and 3 April 1916 (parish records).

⁷ Faculties dated 2 September 1918 and 8 March 1920; designs for reredos in MS dd Par. Oxford St Aldate, c.21, item 'o', and designs for both proposals in MS Oxf. Dioc. Papers c.1922.



- 3.10.2 Under C.M. Chavasse (Rector 1922-8) some practical changes were made. The 'discovery of a charnel house in the third bay of the south aisle crypt' led to an application for the removal of '6 cartloads of human bones.. and to reinter the same in one of the City Cemeteries', though in the event no faculty for this seems to have been granted.⁸ A new organ was provided in 1926 by the generosity of Sir William Morris (later Lord Nuffield), whose mother worshipped in the church.⁹ The faculty application includes a new heating system, removal of the font, oak flooring in the nave aisles and Trinity Chapel, and a stone chamber to contain the electric blower for the organ, 'according to the specification of H.S. Rogers'.¹⁰ This was followed in 1926 by a faculty 'to remove the present screen in front of the organ in the North Aisle and in place thereof to erect a carved oak screen according to the design of Miss Wybergh of Overton, Flintshire'. The application described the screen as the anonymous gift of a lady, and its subject being intended to illustrate the Benedicite; at the same time a cross 'of Ypres design' was placed in the side chapel to commemorate the foundation of the 'Toc H' group.¹¹ The screen between the organ and choir was a subsequent installation in 1929, described as an 'oak screen on the north side of the chancel in accordance with the design of Mr P.S.P. Morter of Liverpool'; the application stated that it was 'intended to complete the general scheme resulting from the gift of the organ by W.R. Morris Esq.'¹² This was funded by 'voluntary donation', and this was presumably another Morris gift, since the carved panels refers to the motor industry and 'Sir William Morris'.¹³ The parish records suggest a degree of controversy over this screen, and the collaboration of Wybergh and Morter rather than the parish architect Rogers.¹⁴
- 3.10.3 A little later, in 1931, the floor of the chancel was paved in marble to the designs of R. Fielding Dodd, the present design being one of a number of alternatives preserved in the parish records.¹⁵ This proposal was made following the architect's report on the condition of the tile floor, and the DAC report urged approval on 'national & economic as well as artistic grounds, the use of green Westmorland slate, Yorkshire stone slabs & Hopton Wood, Derbyshire, marble in the place of the foreign marbles proposed'.¹⁶ Later faculties relate to new electric lighting (1934) and dormer windows in the nave roof (1938).¹⁷ The churchyard was cleared after a proposal in 1942 'to move certain Gravestones from their present position in the churchyard to other positions therein in accordance with the report and plan of H.S. Rogers'; this was granted after a Consistory Court hearing.¹⁸ Accompanying the application was a careful survey of the gravestones, showing the positions of the all those proposed to be moved, and their intended destination; up until this point there were still some five rows of graves on the east side of the church.
- 3.10.4 Faculties granted during the 1950s dealt with reroofing (1951), an altar cross (1954) and rehanging of the bells (1958).¹⁹ The main subsequent alterations carried were the addition of a meeting place, kitchen and lavatories at the west end of the church in

⁸ MS Oxf. Dioc. Papers c.1922, with letter of explanation from Chavasse.

⁹ Martin Adeney, *Nuffield A Biography* (1993), 159.

¹⁰ Faculty dated 17 August 1925.

¹¹ Faculty dated 29 March 1926, letter of application dated 4 March 1926, MS Dioc. Papers.

¹² Faculty dated 11 March 1929; design drawing MS dd Par. Oxford St Aldate's b.21, dated November 1928; letter of application dated 1 February 1929 in MS Dioc. Papers.

¹³ Morris became a Baronet in March 1929, Baron in January 1934 and Viscount in 1938; his mother was buried in 1934, G.E.C. *Complete Peerage*, XIII, 534.

¹⁴ MS dd Par. Oxford c.21, item 'p'.

¹⁵ Faculty dated 23 October 1931 (not in parish records); designs in MS dd Par. Oxford St Aldate's b.21.

¹⁶ Architect's report, and DAC Report with faculty in MS Dioc. Papers.

¹⁷ Faculties dated 23 August 1934 and 23 June 1938, in MS Dioc. Papers.

¹⁸ Faculty dated 14 October 1942, but not effective until November, MS Dioc. Papers.

¹⁹ Faculties of 14 December 1951, 11 May 1954, and 13 June 1958, MS Dioc. Papers.



1961, while at the east end the organ was removed for the creation of a mezzanine floor with meeting room in 1982. The latter involved the removal of the cornice from the Morris screen, which was placed in the meeting room above, but the infilling of the open arcade of the screen with oak panels was the subject of a separate faculty application in 1987, when it was remarked that the screen had previously been moved back from its primary position against the stalls in the general reordering of 1981.²⁰ Other liturgical reorganisation has largely been of temporary staging and removable items, and in the course of redecoration the granite pillars have been obscured with paint.²¹

²⁰ Current parish records, correspondence relating to 1987 petition for faculty.

²¹ Removed during the present works.

4 EXTENT OF WORK AND METHODOLOGY

4.1 Reasons for Work

- 4.1.1 An extensive programme of building refurbishment is being undertaken at St. Aldate's with a view to increasing both the size and utility of the internal space of the church. In addition, a new entrance is being formed at the NE corner of the church via a new building also serving to connect the church and adjacent St Aldate's Coffee Shop. Much of the works comprise the removal of relatively recent additions and the relocation within the church of a number of fittings and monuments. As such the alterations, although changing the character of the building, do so 'in such a manner that is entirely appropriate to its current liturgical use just as the Victorian and early 20th-century changes were made for older uses then in fashion' (Munby 1998, 7).
- 4.1.2 The principal element of internal work requiring archaeological monitoring was the reduction of the floor level by c.0.50m over the full area of the nave and aisles, chancel and chancel aisles (Areas 1, 2 and 3 respectively) to facilitate the installation of a new concrete floor slab. Almost from the outset, it was apparent that the level of the reduced dig was impacting upon a number of brick-built funerary structures of late 18th- and /or early-mid 19th-century date. From an engineering point of view it was essential to establish the nature, extent and number of such features within the nave and aisles as the implications for the design of a suitable floor slab were critical. For this reason, the level of the reduced dig over the northern part of the nave was increased to expose the upper surface of any grave structures. It became apparent that the incidence of graves within this area was highly concentrated, at which point the design of the proposed floor slab was altered accordingly to take into account the lack of 'firm ground' to support a ground bearing slab. It was thus not necessary to investigate the full width of the nave down to the increased level and it should be born in mind that the total figures for grave features given in the main text and appendices below represent only the number of features exposed and should not be taken as a definitive total of burials present.
- 4.1.3 Within the proposed new baptistery, located within the western bay of the original south aisle (Area 4) excavation was more extensive, involving the removal of 2.70m of deposits to facilitate the installation of a total immersion baptistery with related hydraulic lifting equipment. Again, the progress of excavation was closely linked to engineering concerns and the exposure of archaeological features directed certain changes of the original design.
- 4.1.4 Within the area of the proposed entrance building (Area 5), a two stage programme of archaeological investigations were undertaken. Firstly, a single north-south aligned evaluation trench, following the line of a proposed foundation trench was excavated by hand to establish the nature of deposits likely to be encountered during the main phase of work. The results of the evaluation have been previously reported (OAU, January 2000); a summary is included below (§.5.5) for ease of reference. Subsequently, the general ground reduction over the full area of the new structure was monitored archaeologically, the results are included below (§.5.5.5).

4.2 Recording Methodology

4.2.1 *Sub-division of Site* (see Figure 12)

During work, the site was divided into five distinct areas for recording purposes, each sub-division being assigned a block of context numbers as follows:

Site Sub-division	Extent	Context Numbers
Area 1	Chancel	100 – 142
Area 2	Nave, north aisle (extent of 1843 extension), south 'chancel aisle' and westernmost bay of south aisle	300 – 433
Area 3	North aisle (area of 1862 extension)	600 – 631
Area 4	Baptistery area (western bay of original south aisle)	800 -
Area 5	Footprint of new entrance building to N of north chancel aisle	3000-

Table 4.1: Sub-division of site for recording purposes

4.2.2 *The Drawn Record*

An overall plan of exposed features was made at a scale of 1:50 on archivally stable drafting film. Individual features of interest (e.g. articulated burials) were drawn at a scale of 1:10.

4.2.3 *The Written Record*

Written descriptions were made of all exposed features on pro-forma recording sheets in accordance with standard OAU procedures (Wilkinson 1992).

4.2.4 *The Photographic Record*

A black and white negative and colour transparency photographic record was made of all exposed features. The opportunity was taken, at the point of maximum exposure of grave features, to undertake a programme of large format colour photography to record the overall scale of the work undertaken.

4.2.5 *Osteological Analysis*

Wherever possible during the course of work, it was attempted to leave intact burials undisturbed. Specialist examination of human skeletal material was thus limited to those burials where excavation was unavoidable due to engineering impacts. A series of earth-cut burials from the eastern end of the north aisle were the subject of a rapid on-site appraisal, prior to reburial, with a view to identifying age, sex and pathology of the individuals represented. The important series of inhumation burials, exposed within the lower strata of Area 4, were the subject of full osteological examination and analysis prior to reburial.

4.2.6 *Reburial of Human Skeletal Remains*

All human bone was reinterred within the confines of the church. Articulated burials from Area 3 were all accommodated within a single, large brick lined shaft (309) located to the western end of the north aisle, while the series of burials from Area 4 were reburied within a brick-lined shaft within Area 5. Charnel material, totalling 125 5litre sample bags retrieved from unstratified contexts, was reinterred within the upper voids of a number of brick-lined shaft graves prior to recapping with concrete paving slabs and/or pre-cast concrete plank lintels.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION

5.1 Area 1: chancel

Work within the chancel area can be logically broken down into two distinct areas. Firstly, the western area of the chancel where ground reduction was undertaken to the same level as within the nave and aisles exposing, though not impacting upon, a number of 18th-19th-century graves. At the upper (eastern) end of the chancel, work was less intrusive and comprised the recording and removal of a series of successive floor levels and altar steps dating to the 19th and 20th centuries.

5.1.1 *The lower (western) end*

5.1.1.1 At the limit of the reduced dig a total of four brick lined shaft graves (ctx. nos. 131, 137, 139, 141) were exposed. All retained stone capping slabs. Each of the graves was found to contain a well preserved coffin, three of them lead lined (132, 138, 140). Graves 137 and 139 both extended beneath the existing altar step and were thus only partly exposed. Shaft 137 was noted to be >1.50m deep and contained at least three burials, the uppermost being within a lead lined coffin retaining a legible brass name plate thus allowing the individual to be identified.²² This grave was of particular interest in that the upper coffin was supported by stone slabs as opposed to the more usual iron stacking bars observed elsewhere within the church.

5.1.1.2 All graves were recorded prior to being recapped with concrete paving slabs. Details are given in Appendix B.

5.1.1.3 Located centrally within the chancel, and constructed over the top of grave 131, was a large stone-built rectangular charnel pit (ctx.123/130), divided longitudinally into two sections by a central stone wall (see Figure 13a). The overall dimensions of structure 123/130 were 4.40m (E/W) x 2.50m (N/S) x maximum 0.40m high. The voids were completely infilled with charnel material, and were closed by a compact gravelly mortar capping layer (ctx.125). Overlying the capping layer of charnel pit 123 was a layer of loose sandy gravel retained within a brick built structure 125. This layer served as a bedding layer for a series of 6 memorial slabs (ctx.102: comprising memorials no.1-6, Appendix C; see Figure 14b) which were exposed immediately beneath the 1930s marble floor of the chancel (100) and its related concrete make-up material (101). The earliest slab (no.1) was dated 1699 and the latest (no.6), 1836; the latter slab providing a *terminus post quem* for the laying of the memorials presumably as part of a former floor surface possibly related to the layer of memorial slabs (136) recorded at the east end of the chancel (see §.5.1.2.1). Both the layer of memorial slabs (102) and the charnel pit structure (123) were cut by



PLATE 2: Coat of arms on memorial slab to Sir Richard Holloway (slab 1), d.1699

²² Mary Ward, died 24th January, 1841 aged 78 years.

a Victorian service duct (ctx.119) which was brick-built with a base of re-used broken memorial slabs.

5.1.2 *The upper end; altar step* (see Figure 14)

5.1.2.1 The earliest floor surface of the east end comprised a layer of inscribed stone memorial slabs (ctx.136: comprising memorials 8-22; see Figure 14b and Appendix C). The maximum dimensions of floor 136 were 5.4m (N/S) x 2.8m (E/W), though it is unclear whether this represents the full original extent. The preservation of memorials was variable with several fine slate examples with carved coats of arms (no.18) and well preserved inscriptions (no. 8, 9, 17), while other slabs had suffered badly from the application of a very hard, cementacious bedding layer for the overlying tiled floor 134. The floor comprised predominantly 18th-century memorials though two 17th-century examples were noted (nos. 18 and 21). A *terminus post quem* for the laying of the floor was provided by the latest dated memorial slab; (no.8) to Thomas Nowell, principal of St Mary Hall and Regius Professor of Modern History, dated 1801.

5.1.2.2 Floor 136 was overlaid by a fairly well preserved decorated tile floor (ctx. 134: Figure 14a). This floor presumably dates to the Christopher re-ordering of 1862 and is contemporary with the gothic arcade of five bays enclosing texts in the east wall. Tiles were by Minton Hollins and Co. of Stoke-on-Trent and comprised both plain (black, red and yellow) and decorated examples (Figure 00) laid diagonally in a hard cementacious mortar bedding. The floor survived only within the area of the 1930s stone steps: a maximum of 5.4m (N/S: the full width of the chancel) x 2.46m (E/W: extending up to the east wall of the chancel). It was apparent that this did not represent the full western extent of the floor, further tiles had been removed at the time of the laying of the 1930s marble floor. Located centrally against the east wall of the chancel, and obscuring the bases of the gothic arcade, was a low altar step (ctx.135: 2.43m N/S x 1.26m E/W x 0.155m high) again in plain and decorated Minton tiles with grey marble edging though obviously post-dating floor 134 (it does not respect the pattern of the earlier floor). It is presumed that this step corresponds to the 'additional step for the communion table' inserted in 1905 by Mardon Mowbray, Architect (Faculty dated 13th September 1905).

5.1.2.3. Both floor 134 and step 135 were obscured with the laying of the marble floor (100) and associated stone steps (which partially obscured the texts within the gothic arcade) in the 1931 re-ordering by Fielding Dodd (Faculty dated 23rd October 1931).

5.2 **Area 2:** nave, north aisle (extent of 1843 extension), south chancel aisle and western bay of south aisle

5.2.1 *Early Occupation*

5.2.1.1 The earliest deposit exposed within the body of the church was an isolated 'island' of stratified floor deposits (359) directly overlying the natural subsoil (364) exposed within a test pit against the north wall of the nave. Although undated in this instance by any artifactual evidence, it may be argued from the stratigraphic location of these deposits and from a comparison with a number of other sites within Oxford (most recently at Lincoln College) that these floor deposits represent a Saxon occupation surface. It is unfortunately not possible, given the very limited extent of the surviving floor layers, to ascertain whether the layers represent evidence of a Saxon church or a deposit of a domestic nature. The survival of such early deposits is of intrinsic interest, not only for its miraculous survival amid a honeycomb of later features see below), but also in that it provides a datum for Saxon occupation (60.18m OD)

against which to gauge later features and deposits. What is particularly noteworthy is the limited build-up of material (c.1m) between the Saxon deposits and the level of the Victorian floor (61.235m OD), implying as it does that substantial truncation events have occurred in the past.

5.2.2 *The Construction of the North Aisle* (Figure 20)

5.2.2.1 The excavation of four deep pier pits along the length of the north wall of the aisle allowed for the inspection of the footings of the original 15th-century chantry chapel wall. The dimensions of the pier pits averaged 1.70m x 1.20m and they were located at regular intervals along the length of the wall. Where exposed, the footings of the 15th-century wall were noted to comprise a series of wide relieving arches founded upon natural subsoil at a height of 59.50m OD. The arrangement was most clearly exposed in pier pit C, where an arch c.2.90m wide x 1.20m high was recorded. The technique, representing an economic solution to building footings through disturbed ground, is familiar from other sites of comparable date within Oxford, and has been recorded at 26-8 Cornmarket ('Zacharias's') of 1380 (Munby 1992, 271; figs 13 and 19) and more recently at Lincoln College Kitchen of 1437 (Kamash, Hiller and Wilkinson, forthcoming). Similar techniques were employed in the building of the city wall in the 13th century, and examples can still be observed in sections of the wall at Merton College and in Brewer Street to the south of St. Aldate's. The footings contrast with the deeper solid masonry foundations excavated for the extended aisle in 1832, exposed in pier pit E, which were noted to extend down to the level of the natural gravel.

5.2.3 *18th and 19th-century grave structures* (Figure 15)

5.2.3.1 A total of 38 brick-lined shaft graves and a single brick constructed barrel vault were exposed within the nave, north aisle, and the westernmost bay of the south aisle during ground reduction. All were aligned approximately west-east and many retained capping slabs (including a number of re-used 17th-century headstones; see Appendix C). Several graves were noted to contain the fragmentary remains of coffins while two examples, 348 and 438, contained well preserved coffins with legible name plates allowing individual burials to be identified ('Elizabeth Hardaway, died 1813, aged 81 years' and 'M Harpur died 1817, aged 31 years' respectively). Coffins were generally of single or double shell, timber construction and were single-break in form. A total of six triple shell, lead lined examples were recorded. Individual graves and related burials will not be discussed at any length here; details are given in tabulated form in Appendix B.

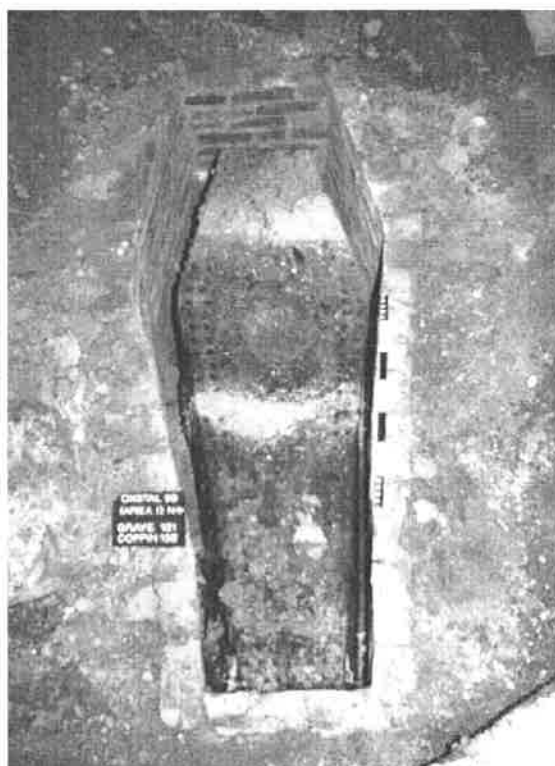


PLATE 3: *Detail of typical 19th-century shaft grave with intact, lead-lined coffin (ctx 131)*

5.2.4 *19th-century reordering*

5.2.4.1 A series of three brick-lined heating ducts were exposed, aligned east-west and located centrally to the north aisle, nave and south aisle respectively.²³ The bases of the ducts were formed of broken and re-used memorial slabs of 18th and 19th century date.²⁴ The brick walls of the ducts additionally served to support the north-south aligned joists of the 19th century floor structure, which were given further support by a series of east-west aligned sleeper walls within the nave.

5.2.5 *Charnel*

5.2.5.1 All features were sealed (in the case of the graves), or abutted by, a mixed deposit of loose soil, building rubble and large quantities (125 5ltr bags) of disarticulated human bone (ctx.301/302). This material presumably represents accumulation related to both the previous disturbance of graves (for the digging of 19th-century structures) and to the extensive 19th-century reorderings within the church. Several discrete areas of highly compacted mortar possibly represent debris from the rebuilding of the aisles in 1862, though it is equally plausible that they represent a deliberate deposit designed to 'seal' the previously exposed shaft graves.

5.2.6 *The Font Base*

5.2.6.1 Within the westernmost bay of the south aisle, immediately west of the existing south door, a 1.3m square structure (432) of stone rubble construction and surviving to a maximum height of 0.41m with a slightly off-centre central circular hole (0.35m diam.) was exposed. Reference to historic plans confirm that this feature represents a base for the 15th-century font, relocated to this position from the south side of the nave during the 1862 reordering.

5.3 **Area 3: north chancel aisle (area of 1862 extension)**

The eastern end of the north aisle (the 'north chancel aisle') was treated as a separate area for the purposes of recording in that it was known to constitute an area of exterior graveyard up until the 1862 Christopher re-ordering when the north aisle was extended eastwards to flank the western section of the chancel.

5.3.1 *Burials*

5.3.1.1 At the limit of ground reduction, the upper surface of a former graveyard soil (ctx.617) was exposed. Cut into layer 617 the outline of five earth cut graves (601, 605, 609, 613 and 618), with visible human skeletal remains, and two brick-lined shaft graves (626 and 627) could be discerned. Although technically at the limit of ground reduction, it was felt that the potential impact of the proposed concrete floor slab upon the burials within the earth cut graves was unacceptable and, for this reason, all exposed burials were excavated under archaeological conditions prior to reinterment within the church. All burials were aligned west-east and were contained within shallow earth-cut graves, implying a significant truncation of the graveyard soil during the 1862 reordering. Details of the burials are given in table 5.1 below.

²³ The insertion of the heating duct running central to the south aisle necessitated some inventive alterations to the crown of the 13th-century crypt where the key stones of each bay were replaced by iron mouldings reflecting the profile of the ribs.

²⁴ All inscribed slabs were retained and recorded *ex-situ*; inscriptions are listed in Appendix C.

Context Number			Comments
Grave cut	Coffin	Skeleton	
601	603	604	
605	607	608	Adult male (c.46+)
609	611	612	c.2 years old; musket ball recovered from cranial cavity
613	615	616	Adult male (c.46+)
618	620	621	Adult male (c.46+)

Table 5.1: details of earth cut burials within area 3

5.3.2 *Structural Remains*

5.3.2.1 At the southern limit of Area 3, a 5.80m long, 0.80 m wide foundation of limestone rubble construction (ctx.628) was exposed in plan only. The foundation was oriented east-west and aligned with the extant north wall of the eastern chancel. This footing represents the former north wall of the original chancel. At the western limit of the area a further foundation of similar characteristics (ctx.629) was exposed, again in plan only. Footing 629 was 0.80m wide x 3.20m long and was aligned north-south, representing the eastern wall of the north aisle as extended in the 1832-4 reordering of the church (see §.3.9.1). Interestingly, brick-lined shaft grave 627 was noted to cut through the latter footing 629, implying that it was excavated after the extension of the aisle in 1862, representing an intramural burial at that date.

5.3.3 *Make-up and Flooring*

5.3.3.1 All features were sealed by a mixed layer of loose earth and charnel (ctx.600), similar to that recorded within the nave, which was in turn overlaid by a compact mortar and rubble construction level. The most recent floor level comprised a woodblock floor and related, bituminous make-up layers,.

5.4 **Area 4: Baptistry area (Figures 21 and 22)**

As a part of the original refurbishment design, it was proposed to install an octagonal total immersion baptistry within the westernmost bay of the original south aisle. The identification at an early stage of brick-lined shaft graves (ctx. 800, 801) within the northern half of Area 4, combined with the realisation that the southern nave and aisle walls did not extend vertically as far as the adjacent bays (where they form the northern and southern walls of the crypt respectively), again prompted a change in design. A new baptistry design was thus evolved; this was of rectangular form and occupied only the southern part of Area 4, a maximum area of 2.65m N/S x 4.40m E/W, thus avoiding impacting upon the brick lined shafts and avoiding the need to underpin the south nave arcade.

5.4.1 *Early Burials (Figure 21)*

5.4.1.1 Within the area of the new baptistry, a series of 19 burials were excavated. All were of extended, supine inhumation form, unaccompanied by grave goods and were oriented west-east. The earliest of the graves (442, 829, 832, 837, 849, 858, 863) were dug into the natural gravel and displayed a significant degree of intercutting indicating a considerable concentration of burials within the area (see Figure 21). The stratigraphically later graves were dug into a natural subsoil (811=866) overlying the gravel or into an overlying former graveyard soil (810). The latest of the graves (819) was clearly cut by the construction cut (824) for the western wall (374) of the original south aisle and so the entire sequence of burials clearly pre-dates the early 14th century.

5.4.1.2 A total of eight of the burials (442, 829, 832, 837, 845, 849, 851 and 858), concentrated towards the bottom of the sequence, were of a form commonly known as 'charcoal burials'; that is, the inhumations were either laid upon or covered by substantial deposits of carbonised wood. The skeletal material itself, though discoloured by the surrounding deposits, displayed no evidence of burning. The precise arrangements for individual burials varied from grave to grave (see catalogue; §.5.4.2), and it is significant to note that the one of the stratigraphically earliest graves (863) was of a 'non-charcoal' type. No evidence for former coffins was recorded, though in the case of grave 837 a clear, near vertical horizon between the charcoal 'packing' deposits (836, 838) and the earth fill (834) around the skeleton itself may indicate the original existence of some form of organic burial container or covering (?shroud) around which the charcoal was deposited. If it is accepted that deposit 359, exposed in Area 2, represents a contemporary ground surface, the original depth of the graves would have been in the region of 1.80m.



PLATE 4: Charcoal burials 858 (left) and 849 (right).

5.4.1.3 The upper burials of the sequence were subject to a rapid on-site osteological evaluation. However, as the significance of the lower sequence became apparent, the strategy was revised; the earlier burials were fully excavated and removed temporarily from site where they were the subject of a full, detailed osteological analysis prior to reburial within the church. The lower sequence of burials are summarised below.

5.4.1.4 Assessment of sex was based on diagnostic morphological features and to a lesser degree metric analysis (Workshop 1980). No attempt was made to sex the subadults. Estimation of adult age was based on a number of factors: dental attrition (Brothwell 1981, 72), appearance of the auricular surface (Lovejoy *et al* 1986), pubic symphysis (Katz and Suchey 1986) and processes of degenerative change (Sager in Brothwell 1981, 50). Subadults were aged by an examination of dental development (Van Beek 1983), epiphyseal fusion (Brothwell 1981, 66) and diaphyseal length (Farwell and Molleson 1993; Workshop 1980). The age of very young infants was assessed according to the criteria of Fazekas and Kosa (1978) (reproduced elsewhere Farwell and Molleson 1993, MF.3 B1). Stature was calculated using the regression formulae of Trotter and Gleser (1952, 1958). The standard range of non-metric traits was scored (Berry and Berry 1967). Limited metric analysis was undertaken and where possible metric and cnic values were calculated. Dental notation is as follows based on Brothwell (1981, 53) as follows:

/ post mortem loss	X ante mortem loss
C caries	A abscess
NP not present	U unerupted
E erupting	- jaw not present

5.4.2 *The Grave Catalogue by Angela Boyle (Osteoarchaeologist, OAU)*

- *Grave Cut:* 442
- *Skeleton Number:* 440

Partially exposed, sub-rectangular grave; extends beneath north baulk section of excavation and cut by construction of undercroft to the east. Cut into natural gravel, the grave also cuts grave 832 to the south. Aligned west-east. Maximum surviving plan dimensions 1.85m long x 0.50m wide. Skull (to right), right torso and legs of extended supine inhumation survive. Right arm flexed with hand over pelvis. The skeleton is laid upon very substantial (up to 0.30m deep) deposit of charcoal (441) which lines the grave.

Sex: male
Age: 20-25 yrs.
Stature: 1.82 m (5'9.5")
Preservation: good
Completeness: virtually complete

8 7 6 5 4 / 2 1	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Comments: slight overbite. Medial rotation of upper left lateral incisor. Moderate calculus on molars.

- *Grave Cut:* 829
- *Skeleton Number:* 826

Well defined, sub-rectangular grave with rounded ends. Aligned west-east. Maximum plan dimensions; 1.92m long x 0.50m wide. Cut into natural gravel, the grave also cuts grave 832 to the north. Complete extended supine inhumation survives, left arm to side, right arm slightly flexed with hand over pelvis. The skeleton is laid upon a 0.05m thick layer of charcoal (830) and is covered by a further, substantial deposit of charcoal (827; 0.19m thick). A single stone was recorded immediately over the right foot.

Sex: male
Age: ageing adult
Stature: 1.64m (5' 4")
Preservation: good
Completeness: virtually complete

C C	C
8 7 6 5 / 3 2 1	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Comments: hyoid body and bones are unfused. This is a rare occurrence in adults. Heavy calculus deposits.

- *Grave Cut:* **832**
- *Skeleton Number:* **831**

Partially exposed, ill-defined cut, heavily truncated by later graves 829 to the south and 442 to the north. Aligned west-east. Cut into natural gravel. Maximum surviving plan dimensions c.1.90m long x >0.50m wide. Left torso, pelvis and leg plus lower right leg survive of extended supine inhumation left arm flexed with hand over pelvis. The skeleton is laid upon 0.07m deep layer of charcoal (833) which lines the grave.

Sex: male

Age: ageing adult

Preservation: fair, no complete bones

Completeness: missing skull and right half of skeleton

Comments: small cyst-like cavity on prong of left navicular and on anterior facet of right calcaneus

- *Grave Cut:* **837**
- *Skeleton Number:* **835**

Partially surviving sub rectangular grave, truncated to the west by the construction cut for the west wall of the south aisle. Aligned west-east. Maximum surviving dimensions: 0.75m long x 0.65m wide x 0.18m deep. Cut into natural gravel, the grave also cuts into the fill of grave 858 to the east. Lower, extended legs only of supine skeleton survive. Skeleton is 'packed' to each side by discrete deposits of charcoal (836 and 838), both of which are c.5cm deep.

Sex: ?

Age: adult

Preservation: poor

Completeness: lower legs and feet

- *Grave Cut:* **840**
- *Skeleton Number:* **842**

Partially exposed, ill-defined grave, truncated to the west by construction of west wall of south aisle. Aligned west-east. Cut into upper fills, and reusing southern edge of grave 849. Maximum surviving plan dimensions 0.50m long x c.0.45m wide. Lower legs and feet only of extended supine inhumation survive.

Sex: male?

Age: adult

Preservation: fair

Completeness: lower legs and feet only

Comments: left navicular and calcaneus are fused, possibly due to crush fracture.

- *Grave Cut: 843*
- *Skeleton Number: ---*

SW corner only of ?sub-rectangular grave, cut into natural gravel. Maximum surviving dimensions 0.80m long x 0.58m wide x 0.21m deep. The grave has been heavily truncated and disturbed by the digging of grave 845 and by construction of lateral stair 806. No intact skeleton survives though unarticulated fragments of skull, pelvis and ribs recovered from fill 844, possibly representing original sub-adult inhumation.

- *Grave Cut: 845*
- *Skeleton Number: 846*

Partially exposed, irregular sub-rectangular grave, truncated to the east by construction of lateral stair 806. Maximum surviving plan dimensions 0.73m long x 0.47m wide. Aligned west-east. Cut through and into base of grave 843. Skull and upper torso only survive of extended supine inhumation, laid upon a primary deposit of charcoal (853), 0.04m – 0.08m thick, which lines the grave. Traces of charcoal also recorded overlying the skeleton.

Sex: Male

Age: mature adult

Present: skull and upper body only

Condition: no complete long bones

CA	
8 X 6 5 4 3 2 1	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Comments: medium periodontal disease. Heavy calculus deposits on anterior dentition. Abscess has an external drain.

- *Grave Cut: 849*
- *Skeleton Number: 859*

Partially surviving, well defined sub-rectangular grave, truncated to the west by the construction cut for the west wall of the south aisle. Aligned west-east. Maximum surviving dimensions: 1.50m long x 0.63m wide x 0.31m deep. Cut into natural gravel. A charcoal deposit (860) was recorded at the eastern (foot) end of the grave. Lower torso, lower arms and extended legs of supine inhumation survive, arms flexed with hands positioned over pelvis.

Sex: male

Age: mature adult

Stature: 1.76 m (5' 8")

Preservation: fair

Completeness: missing skull

Comments: Schmorl's nodes on bodies of 9th-12th thoracic vertebrae



- *Grave Cut: 851*
- *Skeleton Number: 862*

Partially exposed, sub-rectangular grave, truncated to the west by the construction cut for the west wall of the south aisle. Aligned west-east. Northern edge of grave extends beneath baulk of excavation, full extent not exposed. Cut into the upper fill (864) of grave 863. Lower legs and feet only of an extended supine inhumation survive, laid upon a primary deposit of charcoal (861), maximum of 0.04m deep, which lines the grave. The skeleton is overlaid by distinct fill 852 containing small amounts of unarticulated human bone.

Sex: ?Male
Age: adult
Preservation: fair, no complete bones
Completeness: lower body only

- *Grave Cut: 854*
- *Skeleton Number: 848*

Ill-defined cut for much disturbed grave, cut to west by grave 840. Aligned west-east. Fragmentary skeletal remains; only lower left arm and hand survive.

Comments: this is a deposit of disarticulated material. At least two adults and one infant are represented .

- *Grave Cut: 858*
- *Skeleton Number: 855*

Regular, sub-rectangular vertical sided grave, truncated to the east by construction of lateral stairwell 806. Cut to west by grave 837. Aligned west-east. Maximum surviving dimensions: 1.20m long x 0.75m wide x 0.50m deep. Cut into natural gravel. Body supine, skull to right – arms to sides. Upper part of body only, truncated at level of pelvis by construction cut for stairwell. The skeleton is covered by thin layer of charcoal (857) from the neck down; thin (0.02m) to the south, the deposit was markedly deeper to the northern side of the body.

Sex: female
Age: 20-25 yrs.
Stature: 1.59 m (5' 2")
Preservation: good
Completeness: upper body only

PE		PE
8 7 6 5 4 3 2 /		/ 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1		1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
NP		NP

Comments: medial rotation of upper right second premolar.

- *Grave Cut: 863*
- *Skeleton Number: 865*

Partially surviving, well defined sub-rectangular grave, truncated to the west by the construction cut for the west wall of the south aisle. Aligned west-east. Northern edge of grave extends beneath baulk of excavation, full extent not exposed. Maximum surviving plan dimensions: 1.38m long x 0.55m wide. Cut into natural gravel. Lower torso, lower right arm and extended legs of supine inhumation survive, right arm slightly flexed with hands positioned over pelvis. Truncated to west.

Sex: male
Age: mature adult
Height: 1.72 m (5' 6")
Preservation: fair

Completeness: lower body only

Comments: Schmorl's nodes present on lower bodies of 10th and 11th thoracic vertebrae.

5.4.3 *Results*

5.4.3.1 A total of ten skeletons were analysed. Preservation was variable ranging from poor to good. Only two skeletons were virtually complete (440 and 826). The remainder were incomplete as the graves were quite densely intercutting. The assemblage comprised seven males, one probable male, one female and one adult of indeterminate sex. Age ranged from 20 years to 50+ (ageing adult). The stature of five of the skeletons was calculated and ranged from 1.59-1.82 m.

5.4.3.2. Two skeletons exhibited vertebral degeneration in the form of Schmorl's nodes (859 and 865). The left calcaneus and navicular of skeleton 842 were fused and this may have been the results of a crush fracture.

5.4.3.3 Dental health was generally good. Skeleton 846 had one carious cavity and an abscess. Skeleton 826 had three carious teeth. Skeleton 440 had a rotated upper left lateral incisor. Irregularity and overlapping of anterior teeth is so common as to be almost normal. Some are merely twisted out of position, but others are wholly displaced to lingual or to labial (Hillson 1996, 112). The upper right second premolar of skeleton 855 was also rotated and this is a slightly less common feature.

5.4.4 *Discussion*

5.4.4.1 The predominance of males in the group is of some interest. Six of the eight charcoal burials were males, one was female and one was of indeterminate sex. The possibility that this form of burial is mainly linked to male individuals was considered. Two charcoal burials were uncovered during excavations at Christ Church in 1972 (Hassall 1973, 270-274). One was an adult male and the second was an adult of indeterminate sex. A group of 20 skeletons were excavated in the cloister in 1985 (Scull *et al* 1985) and two of these were charcoal burials, an adult male and an adult female. The data is therefore inconclusive.

5.4.5 *Dating*

5.4.5.1 A series of bone samples were taken from three stratigraphically related burials (846, 855 and 835) and were submitted to Rafter Radiocarbon Laboratory, New Zealand for

high precision radiocarbon dating. Each sample was split into three sub-samples, which were measured independently, and the results combined by calculating the weighted mean of the separate ^{14}C ages. Errors are the larger of the weighted error and the standard of each group of three. In addition the results were calibrated using OXCAL v3.5 by Alex Bayliss (Scientific Dating Co-ordinator for English Heritage).

Context Number	Sample Reference	Weighted mean (^{14}C Years BP)	Calibrated Age @ 2 σ (95%) confidence interval	OXCALv3.5
<i>St Aldates</i>				
846	NZA - 12347	1147 \pm 28	785AD to 789 AD plus 807 AD to 979 AD	781 AD to 980 AD
835	NZA - 12349	1210 \pm 36	694 AD to 896 AD plus 930 AD to 941 AD	690 AD to 940 AD
855	NZA - 12348	1107 \pm 28	886 AD to 1001 AD	888 AD to 998 AD
<i>Christ Church Cathedral Grave yard</i>				
402	NZA - 12343	1369 \pm 32	636 AD to 692 AD	621 AD to 690 AD
418	NZA - 12344	1197 \pm 33	720 AD to 743 AD plus 768 AD to 899 AD plus 924 AD to 949 AD	720 AD to 956 AD
277	NZA - 12354	1135 \pm 29	820 AD to 843 AD plus 862 AD to 985 AD	782 AD to 984 AD
<i>Christ Church Cloister</i>				
F96	HAR - 6817	1160 \pm 40	775 AD to 976 AD	776 AD to 982 AD
F119	HAR - 6818	1150 \pm 40	779 AD to 982 AD	778 AD to 986 AD
F123	HAR - 6819	1110 \pm 40	827 AD - 1009 AD	783 AD to 1018 AD
F127	HAR - 6820	1250 \pm 40	668 AD - 884 AD	667 AD to 889 AD
<i>Tom Quad</i>				
?	?	1110 \pm 100	680 AD to 1157 AD	686 AD to 1158 AD

Table 5.2: Summary of ^{14}C dates for St Aldate's and Christ Church

5.4.5.2 The results confirm that the burials from St Aldate's are pre-conquest in date. Skeleton 855 was located at the base of the stratigraphic sequence and was overlain by skeleton 835 which in turn was overlain by skeleton 846. This would suggest that all the skeletons must be dated to the late 9th or 10th century. All three were charcoal burials. These radiocarbon dates add weight to the argument that St Aldate's represents a Saxon foundation. Radiocarbon dates have also recently been obtained from a sequence of three skeletons excavated in Christ Church Cathedral graveyard. The dates from Christ Church Cloister and Tom Quad have also been included in the table for the sake of completeness. It is clear that all the dates can be seen as broadly comparable with the exception of skeleton 402 from Christ Church Cathedral graveyard which is undoubtedly 7th century.

5.4.6 *Charcoal Analysis* by Dana Challinor (Environmental Co-ordinator, OAU)

5.4.6.1 A total of eight of the St Aldates burials were laid upon substantial layers of wood charcoal. Charcoal burials have been found at a number of sites in Anglo-Saxon Britain but since no detailed analysis of the charcoal has yet been undertaken, a comprehensive sampling strategy was implemented at St Aldates. Samples of the charcoal were taken across the burials to determine if there were any spatial differences. One grave (442) was intensively sampled, while a further four graves (829, 837, 845 and 857) were sampled at the head and feet (Table 5.3). Three of the skeletons have been dated by radiocarbon analysis (see §.5.4.3 above) and proved to

be mid to late Saxon in date. The aims of the charcoal analysis were to shed light upon the purpose and function of 'charcoal burials' and to determine any variations between the burials.

Grave no.	Sample no.	Context no.	Volume (litres)	% of sample identified
442	4	441	1	-
	5	441	15	-
	6	441	11	-
	7	441	12	1.6
	8	441	2	-
	9	441	2	-
829	10	827	2.5	3.1
	11	827	0.25	-
832	12	833	2	1.6
837	13	836	1.25	-
	14	836	1.5	6.2
	15	838	1.25	6.2
	16	838	1.25	-
845	17	853	1.25	-
	18	853	1	-
	19	853	1	12.5
849	22	860	1.25	12.5
851	23	861	1.5	25
857	20	857	0.25	100
	21	857	0.5	-

Table 5.3: Charcoal samples from the burials

5.4.6.2 Methodology

A total of twenty samples of charcoal were taken from the eight burials. These were wet-sieved onto a 2mm sieve to remove any adhering soil. The sample sizes varied considerably from 0.25 to 15 litres (Table 5.3). The samples were air-dried and divided into fractions using a set of sieves. In the first instance, they were assessed by scanning under a binocular microscope at x10 and x20 magnification. Fragments of charcoal were randomly extracted, fractured and examined in transverse section. In the case of large samples, a sub-sample of c.20% was examined. On the basis of this initial assessment, it was decided to examine one sample from each context in detail. Samples which were particularly large in size were divided using a riffle box and a fraction of the sample was examined (Table 5.3). The charcoal was then sorted into groups based on the anatomical features observed at low magnification. Representative fragments from each group were then selected for further examination using a Meiji incident-light microscope at up to x400 magnification. Identifications were made with reference to Schweingruber (1990) and modern reference material. In addition to species identification, various analyses (for e.g. the maturity of the wood and the growth rate) were undertaken, where the condition of the charcoal permitted it, to look for any other discernible differences/conditions in the charcoal between the burials.

5.4.6.3 Results

Species composition: Four taxa were positively identified - *Quercus sp.* (oak), *Corylus avellana* (hazel), *Maloideae* (hawthorn, apple, pear etc) and *Prunus sp.* (blackthorn, cherry). It is not always possible to identify to species level, although it may be said that the *Maloideae* charcoal was more characteristic of *Crataegus monogyna* (hawthorn) and the *Prunus* consistent with *P. spinosa* (blackthorn). It was apparent from the initial assessment that all of the samples were dominated by *Quercus* and there were no great spatial differences in species composition between samples from the same grave or indeed between graves.

This pattern was confirmed by the more detailed analysis. Only three samples produced non-oak taxa and in small quantities (Table 5.4). In all samples, there were some charcoal fragments categorised as indeterminate, which were not identifiable either because of poor preservation or because their cell structures were unusual. A number of these fragments were burr wood. Since some burrs were identifiable as oak, it is likely that many of the indeterminate fragments were of the same species. Certainly, burr wood was conspicuously present in most samples.

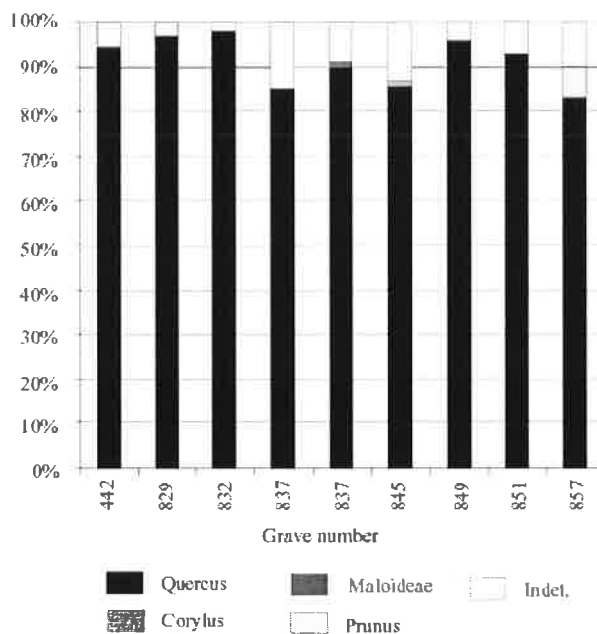


Table 5.4: Species composition of graves

Maturity: Oak heartwood was identified in all of the samples and some sapwood was also positively identified in most samples.

Growth rate: Ring counts were made on oak fragments >9.5mm in size and the average ring width calculated. Table 5.5 shows that the charcoal from all but one of the graves (837) exhibited similar slow growth rates. A number of the larger fragments also exhibited similar patterns of growth - with narrow rings getting wider, then narrowing again.

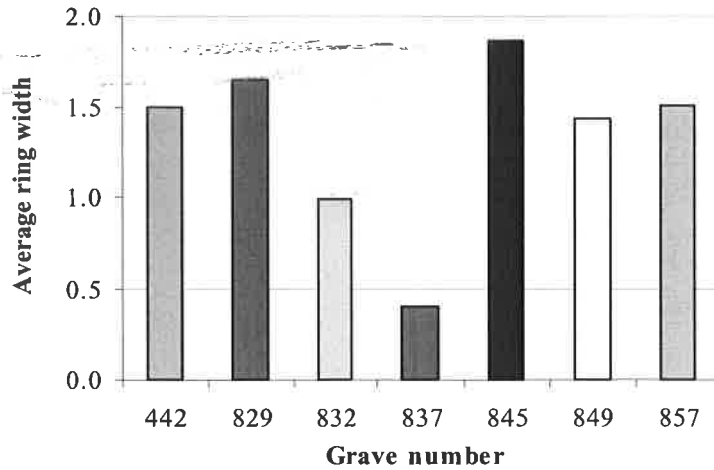


Table 5.5: Average ring widths of oak charcoal in each grave

Quantity of material: The number of oak fragments per litre of excavated material was calculated in an attempt to look at the variations between the graves. While it is acknowledged that there are differential rates of fragmentation in charcoal and that fragment counts are not usually reliable, it was considered permissible in this case, since the charcoal was all of the same species and there was little variation in the distribution of charcoal between sieve sizes (Table 5.6).

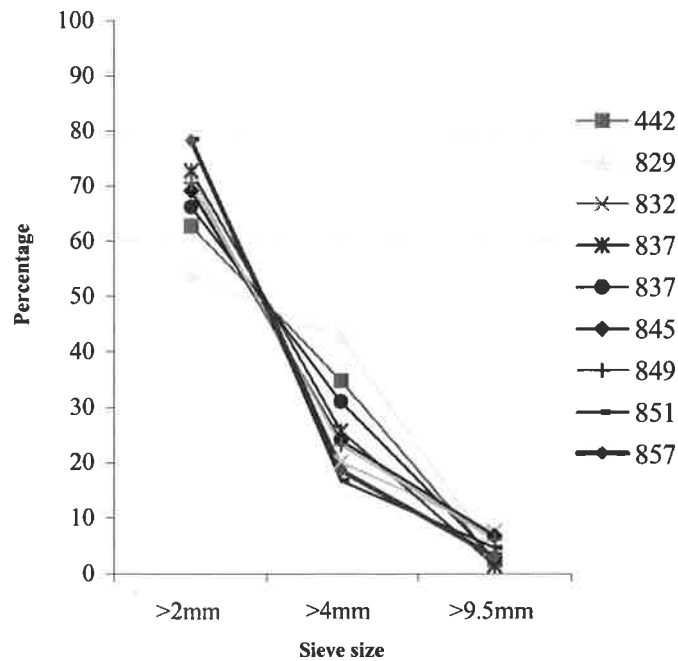


Table 5.6: Distribution of charcoal by sieve sizes

Calculating the number of fragments per litre showed clear variations in the quantity of charcoal which was deposited with the human remains into the grave (Table 5.7).

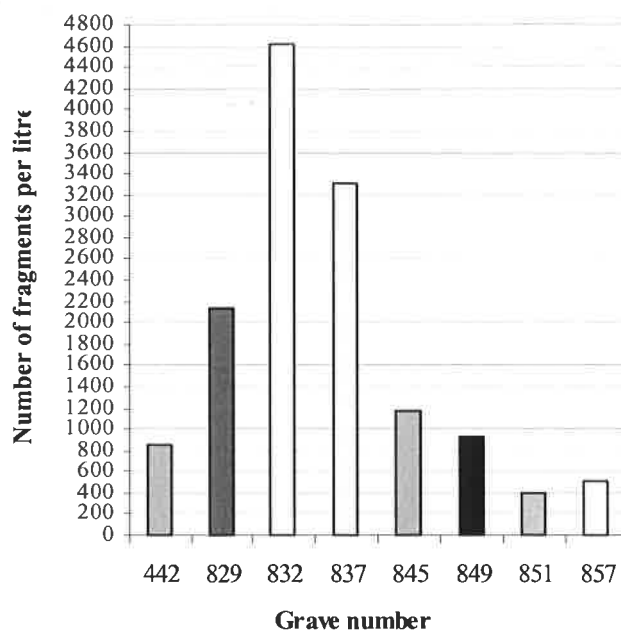


Table 5.7: Number of charcoal fragments per litre

5.4.6.4 Discussion

The scope of this report has been limited to the St Aldate's material and while further work on a broader basis, incorporating both an examination of early literary sources and archaeological evidence is merited, certain preliminary conclusions may be drawn from the current analysis.

Comparison of the charcoal from different graves show that there are more similarities than differences; there are minimal differences in the taxa found in the assemblages (Table 5.4) and there is a clear predominance of oak charcoal in all of the samples. This is in keeping with the charcoal from the burials excavated at Christ Church which were also identified as largely oak (Hassall 1973, 270-71). Given the context of the burials, it is apparent that the charcoal was deliberately deposited as charcoal, rather than as a fuel residue which is the most common occurrence of wood charcoal in the archaeological record. It is likely, therefore, that the presence of small quantities of non-oak species (all of which are typical of scrub/hedgerows) may be explained by their use as an aid to ignition in charcoal burners or as an accidental inclusion; traditional methods for making charcoal utilise shallow pits with layers of straw, grass or bracken to shut out the air (Edlin 1949, 160). Certainly, oak does have good burning properties as a charcoal, although there are other taxa which make superior charcoal, such as *Frangula alnus* (alder buckthorn), *Alnus glutinosa* (alder) and *Salix* sp. (willow) (Edlin 1949, 165). The choice of species would usually depend upon several factors, such as the intended purpose for the charcoal and the availability of resources. This leads to two questions - was the charcoal at St Aldate's custom-made for the burials and, if so, was there any significance in the choice of oak? Certainly, the burning properties of the taxon are irrelevant if the charcoal was custom-made for the purpose of deposition with the human burials.

The presence of burr wood in the majority of the samples may shed light on the issue of custom-made charcoal. Burrs are produced in oak trees in two situations; either the

tree has been pollarded or the tree is of considerable age (M. Robinson, *pers. comm.*). If the latter were the case, then the wood used for the charcoal burials would have come from extremely valuable timber stocks and may be an indication that the individuals concerned were of high status. Alternatively, the occurrence of burrs could be the result of trimmings from large trees, cut for timber, being used for charcoal. If this were the case, the charcoal is not likely to have been carefully selected as an indication of status:

Without complete segments of roundwood, it is very difficult to construe woodland management from charcoal; that said, the distinctive pattern of growth rings noted in some samples could well be from managed wood being cut on a regular cycle (Rasmussen 1990). Grave 837 is distinctive for the slow rate of growth exhibited in the charcoal, but the significance of this is difficult to define.

5.4.7 *The Lateral Stairwell*

5.4.7.1 The fill of the southern 1.25m of the excavated area was distinct in that it comprised loose rubble backfill datable to the 19th or early 20th century. The deposit was deeper towards the eastern side of the area, suggesting an infilled lateral stairwell giving access to the 14th-century vaulted crypt via a doorway within the west wall of the crypt (see right).²⁵ The head of this door is formed to the south by the rising transverse wall rib of the western wall of the crypt. This rib displays no chamfer to its western face, a fact which would appear to invalidate the argument for the former existence of a third, western bay to the undercroft. The fact that the primary masonry of the southern aisle wall within the third bay is founded on gravel some 0.64m above the level of the undercroft floor also implies an original two-bay crypt. The existence of a former stairwell was confirmed at the base of excavations when three *in-situ* stone steps (806) were exposed immediately west of the doorway. The implied stairway was 0.75m wide and flanked to north and south by stone walls, the northern wall having been robbed out. As noted above, the stairwell would appear to have remained in use until the early 19th century, a small doorway within the western aisle wall, presumably giving access to the stair, is visible in Buckler's view of 'St. Aldate's Church from the South-West' (Figure 7). It would appear that when the stairwell went out of use it was initially only partially infilled and possibly used for a period as a 'coal hole' serving the boilers which were housed in the crypt; a horizontal deposit rich in coal was encountered at a depth of c.1.5m and this correlates well with the reduced opening formed by the partial blocking of the lower doorway. The find of a long handled iron shovel associated with the coal rich layer would appear to support such an interpretation. It is unclear exactly when



PLATE 5: Blocked archway leading to undercroft

²⁵ This doorway has been unblocked as a part of the current works and incorporated into the new arrangements of the undercroft.

the lateral stair was finally decommissioned though it would seem reasonable to assume that the westwards extension of the south aisle during the Christopher re-ordering would have made access unfeasible. Significantly, the current stair against the south wall of the aisle giving access via the eastern bay of the undercroft is first shown in Christopher's post-works plan of 1862-3.

5.5 Area 5: External investigations (Figure 23)

A two phase strategy was employed within Area 5 in advance of the creation of a new entrance range. Firstly, a single north-south aligned trench, was laid out following the line of one of the proposed ground beams of the new building to ascertain the nature and extent of deposits surviving within the area. The trench measured 4.60m long x 1.00m wide and was hand excavated to a maximum depth of 1.20m. The results of the evaluation trench indicated that the main phase of ground reduction was likely to reveal, though not impact upon, a series of earth cut burials and brick built funerary structures. Accordingly, a watching brief was maintained during the main ground reduction exercise.

5.5.1 The Evaluation Trench

5.5.1.1 The earliest deposit encountered within the excavated trench comprised a 0.28m deep layer of mid orange-brown sandy clay (2071) which yielded a small amount of disarticulated human bone and a single sherd of medieval green-glazed ceramic (14th/15th century in date). The layer was observed over most of the trench and was absent only where it had been cut by later features. Overlying 2071 (and again surviving except where cut by later features) were two superimposed compacted gravel surfaces (2064=2065 and 2068=2069). The upper limit of surface 2064=2065 was located at a level of 60.21mOD. The surfaces were undated by artefactual evidence. However, it appears reasonable to interpret the superimposed compacted layers as yard and/or path surfaces related to the churchyard arrangement with north-eastern entrance as shown in Loggan's map of 1675. A tentative 15th-century *terminus post quem* for the laying of surface 2064=2065 is provided by the sherd of Brill/Boarstall ware recovered from layer 2071. The lid fragment is of a distinctive form mainly in use during the 14th and 15th centuries (Mellor 1994, fig. 53, 8-12; *ibid.* 177). The sherd is a little abraded, however, and could easily have been redeposited, and to draw firm conclusions from a single sherd is difficult.

5.5.1.2 The extent of 2071 exposed during the evaluation was insufficient to ascertain whether any intact graves were cut into the lower layer, and thus whether this area of the church enclosure was used as a burial ground prior to the laying of metalled surfaces. However, the presence of charnel material within this layer suggests that this was indeed the case.

5.5.2 Graveyard Deposits

5.5.2.1 The upper metalled surface (2064=2065) was sealed by a 0.54m deep layer (2063/2075) representing an imported graveyard soil post-dating the dis-use of the yard surface (?late 17th century). Dug into 2063/2075 were a total of 11 definable burials (group nos. 2001, 2006, 2010, 2015, 2020, 2024, 2031, 2043, 2047, 2056 and 2059), a number of which were cut through the underlying metalled surfaces.

5.5.2.2 The relatively low concentration of burials encountered within the trench combined with their close stratigraphic grouping, would appear to be consistent with a fairly limited timespan for the use of the area for burials and implying a correspondingly long term use of the compacted surface. It is clear from the depth of a number of the

burials that truncation of the upper layers of the graveyard has occurred (the base of grave cut 2007 (Group 2006), for example, is only 0.60m below the current slabbed yard surface), probably during the reorderings of the late 19th/early 20th century.

5.5.3 *Later Disturbance*

5.5.3.1 At the southern end of the trench, burial group number 2010 was truncated by the substantial (1.60m wide) cut 2076 associated with the construction in 1862 of the north chancel aisle. Likewise, at the northern end of the trench, structure 2036/2039 (a possible table monument base) was disturbed by cut 2029, the construction trench associated with the basemented buildings to the north of the development area, fronting onto Pembroke Street. Cuts 2076 and 2029 were sealed by a 0.20m thick make-up layer (2000) which contained both water and electrical services at the north of the trench. In the centre of the evaluation trench, cutting through layer 2000, was an east-west aligned drainage pipe and associated trench (2054).

5.5.4 *The Watching Brief*

5.5.4.1 In advance of the laying of a new slab for the new entrance range, ground level was reduced over the full area of the proposed new building. During this operation, a total of 21 earth cut graves and a single brick lined shaft grave were identified, though none were impacted by the groundworks.

5.5.4.2 The excavation of the foundation trenches for the new linking range were located entirely within previously disturbed ground, namely the foundation trenches for the north chancel aisle to the south and for the basemented range of buildings fronting onto Pembroke Street to the north. No significant archaeological remains were encountered during the excavation of these trenches.



PLATE 6: Excavation of the new linking range footprint to the north of the NE chancel aisle.

6 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

6.1 Evidence for Early Occupation

Evidence for early, potentially Saxon, occupation of the site has been recorded in three forms: the identification of a small area of Saxon 'floor' surface, the excavation of a series of 'charcoal burials' within the area of the new baptistery and the retrieval of a fragment of 10th-century cross shaft from the south wall of the nave. These will be discussed in turn.

6.1.1 Saxon 'Occupation Surface'

6.1.1.1 The identification of the small area of Saxon compacted occupation or 'floor surface' is putative. The 'Saxon' dating of this feature, in the absence of any artefactual evidence, is based purely on comparison with closely similar deposits recorded at other sites within Oxford where secure dating has been retrieved, most recently during excavations at Lincoln College. This said, the distinctive nature of the deposit combined with its stratigraphic location immediately overlying a lightly disturbed sub-soil make the Saxon designation likely. Its survival amidst the concentration of later features is remarkable and it is useful in providing a datum level against which to relate other early features such as the series of charcoal burials discussed in §.6.1.2 below.

6.1.2 The 'Charcoal Burials'

6.1.2.1 The exposure of the series of charcoal burials at the base of Area 4 represents a particularly interesting and unexpected discovery. The practice of charcoal burial is first documented in the 4th century in a letter by Sulpicius Severus relating to the burial of St Martin of Tours (Daniell 1997, 158) and became fairly widespread from the ninth to the 12th century. Charcoal burials are known from a number of sites in England, and a number of examples have been recorded in Oxford, most notably at Christ Church where two burials were discovered in the south-west corner of the Great Quadrangle (Hassall 1973, 270). The bases of the graves were covered by a layer of charcoal measuring up to 0.10 m deep. Two further charcoal burials were recovered in Christ Church cloister during excavations in 1985 (Scull 1988, 33). They were part of a group of 20 inhumations which were cut into a layer lying directly above natural. All were orientated west-east, supine extended and unaccompanied by gravegoods. The importance of the cemetery at Christ Church is twofold: it demonstrates the existence of a 9th or 10th century religious community and it may imply the existence of a contemporary religious foundation. The longevity of the burial rite is illustrated by a single charcoal burial and a burial on a bed of ash from excavated at All Saints whose cemetery is believed to date from the 12th or early to mid 13th century.

6.1.2.2 Examples beyond Oxford include Romsey Abbey in the periods AD800-950 and AD900-1100 (Scott 1996, 40), St Guthlac's Minster, Hereford (Shoesmith 1980, 27) and in the 10th/11th century cemetery at Old Minster, Winchester (Kjølbe-Biddle 1975, 89-91). In his discussion of the cemetery at St. Nicholas Shambles, White (1988, 25) concludes that burials of this type are comparatively rare in early medieval parish church cemeteries and most known examples are associated with cathedral churches.

6.1.2.3 The current project has provided the valuable opportunity to undertake considerable analysis of the charcoal burials. The analysis of the charcoal deposits themselves has proved fruitful and, while the origin and significance of the burial rite remains obscure, has allowed for a number of broad conclusions to be proposed.

- 6.1.2.4 The results from the analysis suggest that the presence of charcoal in the burials represents the use of valuable timber resources in the form of a one-off burning of specially felled oak, which would support the theory that the burial rite is a reflection of high status. Certainly, the relative rarity of the burial rite in Saxon Britain and its apparent exclusivity to religious foundations implies such a significance. That the quantity of charcoal within the graves varies widely (Table 5.7) suggests that the amount of charcoal was of less significance than its actual presence and its function may have been of a symbolic nature, possibly related to the well-documented practice of laying the dying body on a bed of penitential ashes (Daniell, 1997 159). However, a number of practical possibilities exist and should be considered.
- 6.1.2.5 Analogies may be drawn with the use of other materials including calcium, quick and slaked lime included within burials at various points in history, for a range of different reasons. Some Jewish authorities permitted calcium to be sprinkled over the body in order to stimulate decomposition, and the application of quick or slaked lime which is attested in London would have either speeded the decay of soft tissues or absorbed moisture on putrefaction (Philpott 1991, 93). During the post-medieval period, cholera victims were regularly buried in quicklime although it was regarded as unseemly and faced strong opposition (Richardson 1988, 227).
- 6.1.2.6 Perhaps the most plausible functional interpretation, however, is that the charcoal acted as an absorbant layer, designed to minimise the effects of putrefaction and thus promoting the preservation of the corpse. Certainly, in the Roman period, gypsum or plaster are known to have been used for this purpose and the use of plaster is thus often interpreted as an attempt to preserve the body. Such a function may have had a practical or symbolic end. The practical necessity for such treatment would be intensified in the case of bodies that had become bloated or were poorly preserved, due either to disease or natural decay. Such circumstances would readily arise in the case of delayed burial, for example where a corpse required transportation over a considerable distance to the place of interment. Alternatively, the desire for preservation of the corpse may have been driven by contemporary beliefs regarding the Resurrection and the Last Judgement when the body of the dead would rise from the grave. As Daniell (1997, 160) concludes in his discussion of the practice, the significance of the burial rite most probably represents a combined reflection of social status and religious belief.

6.1.3 *The Saxon Cross-Shaft*

- 6.1.3.1 The cross shaft fragment retrieved from wall 373 represents a particularly interesting find. The fragment is 48cm tall, of rectangular cross-section and tapers from 37cm wide /19.5cm deep at the bottom to 30cm wide /13.5cm deep at the top. The stone is differentially worn and badly broken to the lower end. Each face displays single plain relief borders enclosing panels of interlace decoration: the two broad faces display a similar motif of six strand plaits while the narrow faces display a four strand plait and a 'Stafford Knot' (Cramp's type 23e; 1995, fig.23 p.xli) respectively. The upper face is dressed square and retains a central rectangular mortice which would have originally functioned to house an iron tie fixing this stone to the one above. Similar mortices or circular 'dowel holes' are known from other cross-shaft fragments; eg. St. Peter's, Bishop's Waltham (ibid., p.250, pl.418-19, 421-22) and St Margaret's, Barking (ibid. p.205, pl.256-259). Although the upper face of the stone remains partly intact, no evidence of the lower extent of the stone survives (the lower part of the decoration is broken away and no evidence for a return of border mouldings is visible). It is therefore not possible in this instance to extrapolate the original height

of the section from the surviving fragment. The St Aldate's fragment thus represents an incomplete section of a shaft constructed in separate pieces.

6.1.3.2 A total of 25 free-standing cross shaft fragments are known from the south-east of England (ibid., p.23) of which fifteen take the angular form represented by the fragment recovered at St Aldate's. Although overall proportions of crosses are seldom calculable, Cramp (1995, xiv) has (on the available evidence) estimated a range from the monumental (5.5m tall) to those conceived on a small scale (0.86m tall).

6.1.3.3 The St Aldate's cross shaft fragment represents a find of intrinsic value and adds significantly to a small assemblage of comparable sculpture from Oxfordshire.

6.1.4 *A Saxon Church at St Aldate's?*

6.1.4.1 Blair has suggested that the burials discovered in Christ Church form part of the cemetery relating to St Frideswide's. Anglo-Saxon minsters sometimes had enormous cemeteries later invaded by urban development (Blair 1988, 233) and some finds of stray burials from Oxford are worth considering in this context even though they are at a considerable distance from the priory church. For example, 'the great numbers of human skeletons some 16 feet deep, many with their feet inverted to the south which were found while digging the vault under Pembroke College chapel in 1732' (Wood 1773, 29). Christian-orientated burials have been found next to Pembroke College gate (Oxon 1960, 134) while a burial in a stone coffin, accompanied by an elaborate gold finger ring, was discovered in the late 19th century under the road on the east side of St Aldate's churchyard, opposite Tom Tower.

6.1.4.2 It is becoming increasingly clear that important minsters often, perhaps usually, had two or more subsidiary churches, and that these were frequently set out on axial alignments. Blair (1988, fig.95) has proposed that the Anglo-Saxon Minster stood on the site of the north transept and north-east chapels of the priory church; St Aldate's and St Ebbe's further west would lie on much the same topographical axis forming a line of three churches on the northern bank of the Thames just within the limits of the defended Saxon town (ibid., fig. 93). The early 12th century 'Life of St Frideswide' mentions an 'original' dedication to the Holy Trinity, St Mary and All Saints, possibly a garbled memory of two or three churches of which St Mary's' (where the saint was believed to have been buried) is the predecessor of the Priory church.

6.1.4.3 The acceptance of such a theory obviously depends upon defining more precise dates for the churches of St. Aldate's and St.Ebbe's, and establishing the contemporaneity of the three foundations. While the first documentary reference to St Aldate's Church occurs in the second quarter of the 12th century, its origins are no doubt older and it has been argued that it represents a Saxon foundation. Activity from the 8th century onwards on the line of St Aldate's, the main river crossing and perhaps the Oxenford has been demonstrated archaeologically (Durham 1977; 1984). The identification during the current watching brief of a small area of early occupation surface, the discovery of a section of 10th-century carved cross shaft and the excavation of the series of charcoal burials, firmly dated to the 10th century, can be seen to support the argument for an early origin.

6.2 **The Development of the Church**

6.2.1 Evidence for the development of the church has been disappointing. No substantial remains related to earlier phases of the church have been recorded, the result of the



limited extent of ground reduction work, the extensive disturbance caused by intra-mural burial and of previous programmes of refurbishment.

- 6.2.2 Evidence recorded during excavations for the new baptistery (Area 4) has established that the 14th-century crypt was not originally furnished with a third, western bay as has previously been assumed (eg. Sherwood and Pevsner 1974, 287).

6.3 18th-and 19th-century Burials

- 6.3.1 The practice of intra-mural burial (ie. burial within the church) in brick-lined shaft graves and vaults was common throughout the 18th and early 19th centuries and structures of this type are common features of parish churches particularly within well-populated towns and cities. Shaft graves can frequently be up to between 8 -10ft in depth and are often furnished with iron 'stacking' bars to allow for the superimposition of one coffin on top of another (up to four coffins per shaft). Although legislation was passed in London 1852 forbidding the practice in the light of health concerns, intra-mural burial is known to have continued outside of the capital up until the late 19th century.

- 6.3.2 The range of grave structures exposed at St Aldate's represents an interesting but unremarkable cross section of 18th and 19th-century grave structures. It is of interest to note that shaft grave 627 within Area 3 was dug into the footings of the west aisle wall as extended in 1832-4. The implication is, of course, that the grave was excavated after that wall had become redundant (1862) and as such, the grave indicates that intramural burial was being practised at St Aldate's at least 10 years after the passing of legislation banning the practice in the capital.

6.4 Conclusion

- 6.4.1 The archaeological watching brief maintained during refurbishment has served to significantly enhance our understanding not only of the origins of St Aldate's itself but of the early development of the City of Oxford.
- 6.4.2 The excavations clearly illustrate the potential for significant archaeological remains to be encountered during fairly limited interventions within churches, and the exposure of nearly 50 grave structures of 18th and 19th-century date should serve as a cautionary tale in relation to church refurbishments entailing substantial ground reduction. However, the adaptable approach employed at St Aldate's has shown that close integration and co-operation between the archaeologist and contractor can work smoothly with minimal adverse affects upon the construction programme, indeed active dialogue with and involvement of archaeologists at an early stage can be beneficial in developing acceptable and effective solutions to complex engineering problems.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Berry AC and Berry RJ, 1967: 'Epigenetic variation in the human cranium', *Journal of Anatomy* **101**, 361-79.
- Biddle M, 1964: 'Excavations at Winchester' 1962-3, *Antiq J* **44**
- Blair J, 1988: 'St Frideswide's monastery: problems and possibilities' *Oxoniensia* **53**, 221-258
- Brothwell DR, 1981: *Digging up bones*.
- Cramp R, 1995: *A General Introduction to the Corpus of Anglo-Saxon Stone Sculpture: Grammar of Anglo Saxon Ornament*.
- Daniell C, 1997: *Death and Burial in Medieval England 1066-1550*. London, Routledge.
- Durham BG, 1977: 'Archaeological investigations in St Aldate's, Oxford' *Oxoniensia* **42**, 83-203
- Durham BG, 1984: 'The Thames crossing at Oxford' *Oxoniensia* **49**, 258-67
- Eeles FC, 1946: 'The Origin and Growth of St Aldate's Church, Oxford from 1066 to the present day'. Transcript of paper read to the St Aldate's Fellowship Nov 4th 1946.
- Eldin HL, 1949: *Woodland crafts in Britain: an account of the traditional uses of trees and timbers in the British countryside*. London, Batsford.
- Hassall TG, 1973: 'Excavations at Oxford 1972: Fifth interim report' *Oxoniensia* **38**, 268-298
- Hillson S, 1996: *Dental anthropology*.
- Kamash Z, Hiller J and Wilkinson D, forthcoming: 'Late saxon and medieval occupation evidence from excavations at Lincoln College; 1997-1999'.
- Katz D and Suchey JM, 1986: 'Age determination of the male os pubis' in *American Journal of Physical Anthropology* **69**, 427-35.
- Kjølbe-Biddle B, 1975: 'A cathedral cemetery: problems in excavation and interpretation' *World Archaeol* **7**, 89-91
- Lovejoy CO, Meindl RS, Pryzbeck TR and Mensforth R, 1985: 'Chronological metamorphosis of the auricular surface of the ilium: a new method for the determination of adult skeletal age at death' in *American Journal of Physical Anthropology* **68**, 15-28.
- Mellor M, 1994: 'A synthesis of Middle and Late-Saxon, Medieval and early Post-medieval pottery in the Oxford Region' in *Oxoniensia*, **59**, 17-217.
- Munby JT 1992: 'Zacharias's: a 14th century Oxford New Inn and the Origins of the Medieval Urban Inn' in *Oxoniensia* **57**, 245-309.
- Munby JT 1999: 'St Aldate's Church: Archaeological Recording Specification' Unpublished DAC Advisors Report.
- OUA 1998: 'St Aldate's Church: Archaeological Implications of Proposed Re-ordering' Unpublished client report.

Philpott R, 1991: *Burial practices in Roman Britain. A survey of grave treatment and furnishing AD 43-410*

Rackham O, 1990: *Trees and woodland in the British landscape*, 2nd edition London, Phoenix Giant.

Rasmussen P, 1990: 'Pollarding of trees in the Neolithic: often presumed – difficult to prove' in Robinson DE (ed.), 1988.

Reynolds JS, 1967: *Canon Christopher of St. Aldate's, Oxford*. Abbey Press, Abingdon.

Richardson R, 1991: *Death, dissection and the destitute* (1988).

Robinson DE (ed.) 1988: *Experimentation and reconstruction in environmental archaeology*, Symposium of the Association of Environmental Archaeology, 9, Roskilde, Denmark. Oxbow Books.

Sager P, 1968-9: *Spondylosis cervicalis*. Årsberetn. Københavns Univs Medic.-Hist. Inst. Mus., 185-224.

Schweingruber FH, 1990: *Microscopic wood anatomy*, 3rd edition, Swiss Federal Institute for forest, snow and landscape research.

Scott I, 1996 *Romsey Abbey: report on the excavations 1973-1991*. Hampshire Field Club, Monograph 8.

Scull C, 1988: 'Excavations in the cloister of St Frideswide's Priory, 1985' *Oxoniensia* 53, 21-74

Sherwood J and Pevsner N, 1974: *The Buildings of England: Oxfordshire*.

Shoesmith R, 1980: *Excavations at Castle Green*, Hereford City Excavations 1, CBA Res Rep 36

Trotter M and Gleser GC, 1952: 'Estimation of stature from long bones of American whites and negroes' in *American Journal of Physical Anthropology* 10, 463-514;

Trotter M and Gleser GC, 1958: 'A re-evaluation of estimation of stature based on measurements of stature taken during life and long bones after death' in *American Journal of Physical Anthropology* 16, 79-123.

Tweddle D, Biddle M and Kyølbe-Biddle B, 1995: *Corpus of Anglo-Saxon Stone Sculpture Volume IV: South-East England*. OUP, Oxford.

VCH Oxon Vol. X

White W, 1988: *Skeletal remains from the cemetery of St Nicholas Shambles, City of London* LAMAS

Wilkinson D, 1992: 'OAU Fieldwork Manual'.

Workshop of European Anthropologists 1980 'Recommendations for age and sex diagnoses of skeletons' *Journal of Human Evolution* 9, 517-49.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The archaeological watching brief, post-excavation analysis and the preparation of this report have been funded by St. Aldate's Church and the Oxford Archaeological Unit would like to thank all at St. Aldate's for their support during the course of the project, in particular David MacInnes (Rector), Clare MacInnes (Parish Co-ordinator), John Chorlton (Vicar) and Andrew Buckler (Curate).

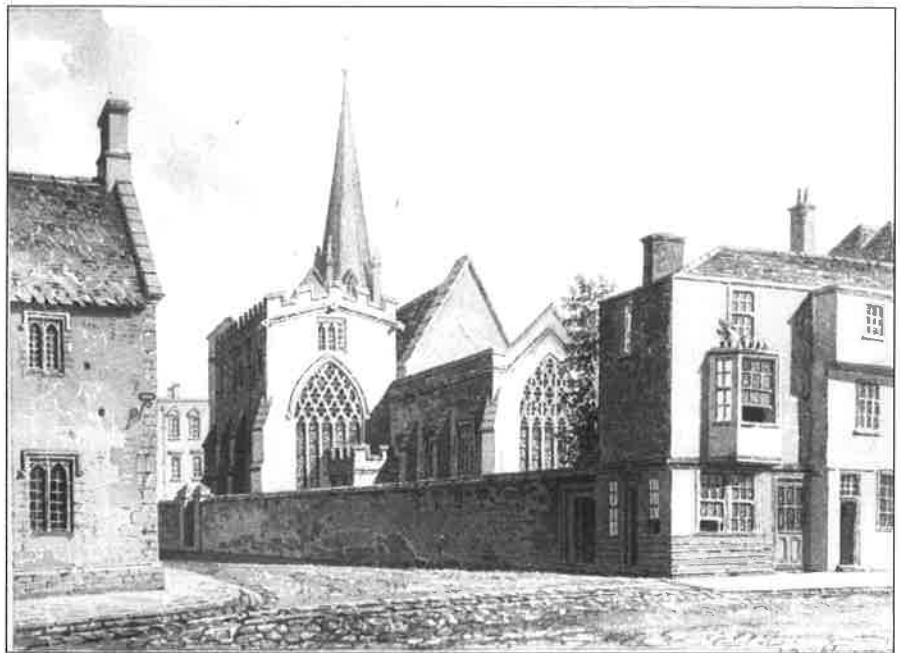
Re-ordering work at the church was undertaken by Fred Batterton and Marcus Howe of Batterton Tyack Architects. The site contractors, Latimer Contracting of Thame, Oxon. provided logistical support throughout the project and were helpful at all times.

The author would particularly wish to thank site foreman Sam Brown of Latimers for his co-operation, understanding and enthusiastic interest throughout the course of works. Valuable on-site advice on osteology was received from Angela Boyle and on architectural aspects of the discoveries from Julian Munby, both of OAU. Special thanks go to Dana Challinor for the analysis of the charcoal from the early burials. Illustrations have been prepared by the author and by Peter Lorimer and Sarah Lucas of the OAU graphics department; the Saxon cross-shaft was drawn by Luke Adams. A survey of the church buildings by Midlands Surveys Ltd., undertaken on behalf of the project architects, served as the base for Figs. 2, 5, 6, 12, 15 and 20; OAU are grateful for permission to use this survey. Thanks also to David Stevens of The Downland Partnership for undertaking a programme of large format photography at short notice.

Batterton Tyack Architects on behalf of
The Rector and Churchwardens of St Aldate's Church, Oxford

St Aldate's Church

Oxford



St Aldate's Church from the east by JC Buckler

Appendices



Oxford Archaeological Unit
June 2001

Appendix A: Context Inventory

Context Number-	Context Type	Description
AREA 1		
100	layer	1930s marble flooring to chancel
101	layer	Make-up layer to 100
102	layer	Layer of Memorial slabs (nos. 1-6 as per appendix C)
103	wall	Former altar step
104	cut	Cut for 103
105	layer	Construction surface
106	fill	Fill of 104
107	layer	Fragmentary remains of (?)1862 tiled floor
108	wall	Brick sleeper wall
109	wall	Stone footing
110	wall	Stone footing
111	step	Step to chancel
112	void	Void
113	layer	Woodblock floor to S chancel aisle
114	layer	Bitumous bedding layer to 113
115	layer	Make-up layer to 113
116	layer	Hardcore
117	layer	Make-up
118	layer	Construction surface
119	structure	Victorian service duct
120	wall	Former S chancel wall
121	plinth	Plinth (x 3 stones) rel. 120
122	layer	Former exterior soil layer
123	structure	Charnel pit
124	fill	Charnel (fill of 123: north)
125	structure	Western bay of south aisle 'crypt'
126	fill	Bedding layer for memorial slabs 102
127	layer	Capping layer to charnel 124
128	fill	Charnel (fill of 123: south)
129	layer	Mortar layer rel.123
130	structure	Eastern continuation of 123
131	grave	Brick-lined shaft grave
132	coffin	Triple shell lead-lined coffin within grave 131
133	layer	1930s marble floor of upper altar step
134	layer	Tiled floor of 1862 altar step
135	layer	Tiled floor of 1905 upper altar step
136	layer	Altar floor comprising memorial slabs (nos. 8-22 as per Appendix C)
137	grave	Brick-lined shaft grave
138	coffin	Triple shell lead-lined coffin within grave 137 (dated 1841)
139	grave	Brick-lined shaft grave
140	coffin	Triple shell lead-lined coffin within grave 139
141	grave	Brick-lined shaft grave
142	coffin	Single shell timber coffin within grave 141
AREA 2		
300	layer	Compacted mortar construction level
301	layer	Charnel layer
302	layer	Compacted mortar construction/capping layer
303	grave	Brick-lined shaft grave
304	fill	Earth and rubble fill of grave 303
305	grave	Brick-lined shaft grave
306	fill	Earth and rubble fill of grave 305
307	grave	Brick-lined shaft grave

Context Number	Context Type	Description
308	fill	Earth and rubble fill of grave 307
309	grave	Brick-lined shaft grave
310	fill	Charnel
311	grave	Brick-lined shaft grave
312	fill	Earth and rubble fill of grave 311
313	grave	Brick-lined shaft grave
314	fill	Earth and rubble fill of grave 313
315	grave	Brick-lined shaft grave
316	fill	Earth and rubble fill of grave 315
317	vault	Brick built barrel vault
318	wall	North nave wall footing
319	wall	Former end wall of north aisle (1456)
320	wall	North nave wall footing
321	wall	North nave wall footing
322	grave	Brick-lined shaft grave
323	fill	Not investigated number issued for reference purposes only
324	cut	Irregular hollow
325	fill	Charnel; fill of 324
326	grave	Brick-lined shaft grave
327	fill	Not investigated number issued for reference purposes only
328	grave	Brick-lined shaft grave
329	fill	Earth and rubble fill of grave 328 (contains charnel)
330	grave	Brick-lined shaft grave
331	fill	Earth and rubble fill of grave 330 (contains charnel)
332	grave	Brick-lined shaft grave
333	coffin	Single shell timber coffin within grave 332
334	grave	Brick-lined shaft grave
335	fill	Not investigated number issued for reference purposes only
336	grave	Brick-lined shaft grave (double width)
337	coffin	Fragments of lead lined coffin observed during stripping
338	grave	Brick-lined shaft grave
339	fill	Earth and rubble fill of grave 338 (contains charnel)
340	structure	Victorian service duct
341	wall	Victorian sleeper wall supporting central aisle of nave
342	wall	Victorian sleeper wall supporting central aisle of nave
343	layer	Bedding layer for woodblock floor of centre nave
344	layer	Loosely compacted layer through which upper graves appear to be cut
345	grave	Brick-lined shaft grave
346	coffin	Double shell timber coffin within grave 345
347	grave	Brick-lined shaft grave
348	coffin	Single shell timber coffin within grave 347 (dated 1813)
349	grave	Brick-lined shaft grave
350	fill	Not investigated number issued for reference purposes only
351	grave	Brick-lined shaft grave
352	coffin	Single shell timber coffin within grave 351
353	grave	Brick-lined shaft grave
354	fill	Earth and rubble fill of grave 353 (contains charnel)
355	fill	Fill of 356
356	cut	??construction cut for 318
357	fill	Fill of 358
358	cut	Charnel pit?
359	layer	?Saxon floor surface
360	layer	?Saxon floor surface
361	layer	Levelling/make-up for 360
362	layer	?soil improvement' at upper limit of 363

Context Number	Context Type	Description
363	layer	?early ploughsoil
364	layer	Natural subsoil
365	layer	Natural gravel
366	fill	Fill of 367
367	cut	Construction cut for 317
368	grave	Brick-lined shaft grave
369	fill	Not investigated number issued for reference purposes only
370	grave	Brick-lined shaft grave (renumbered as 800)
371	fill	See 802/803
372	fill	Infill material within western bay of 'crypt' in S aisle
373	wall	South wall of nave
374	wall	Western wall of pre-1862 S aisle
375	wall	South wall of nave
376	layer	1862 levelling deposit
377	skeleton	Within 380
378	grave	Brick-lined shaft grave
379	coffin	Coffin implied by nature of rubble infill
380	cut	Grave cut
381	fill	Fill of 380
382	coffin	Within 380
383	cut	Stake hole
384	fill	Fill of 383
385	group no.	Test pit
386	wall	East end of 1456 N aisle
387	skeleton	Within 391
388	fill	Fill of grave 390
389	skeleton	Partially exposed
390	layer	Fill of 12th-century stone lined pit
391	grave cut	Contains 387
392	layer	Make-up layer (?1843)
393	wall	
394	wall	
395	grave	Brick-lined shaft grave
396	grave	Brick-lined shaft grave
397	grave	Brick-lined shaft grave
398	grave	Brick-lined shaft grave
399	wall	Reconstructed buttress
400	grave	Brick-lined shaft grave with partly intact capping
401	grave	Brick-lined shaft grave
402	coffin	Single shell timber coffin within grave 401
403	grave	Brick-lined shaft grave
404	fill	Single shell timber coffin within grave 403
405	grave	Brick-lined shaft grave
406	coffin	Single shell timber coffin within grave 405
407	skeleton	Lower of two burials within grave 405
408	coffin	Single shell timber coffin within grave 395
409	grave	Brick-lined shaft grave exposed in section only
410	grave cut	Grave cut exposed in section only
411	skeleton	In section only
412	grave	Grave cut exposed in section only
413	skeleton	In section only
414	grave	Grave cut exposed in section only
415	coffin	In section only
416	grave	Contains 411
417	Skeleton	?medieval burial

Context Number	Context Type	Description
418	fill	Fill of 416
419	grave	Brick-lined shaft grave exposed in section only
420	grave	Brick-lined shaft grave
421	coffin	Within 420
422	Grave	Brick-lined shaft grave
423	Fill	Fill of 422
424	Grave	Brick-lined shaft grave
425	Fill	Fill of 422
426	Grave	Brick-lined shaft grave
427	Fill	Fill of 426
428	Grave	Brick-lined shaft grave
429	Fill	Fill of 428
430	Grave	Brick-lined shaft grave
431	Fill	Fill of 430
432	Font base	Stone font base rel. 1862 re-ordering
433	Ref. No.	Ref. no. for finds beneath 382
434	Skeleton	Within 435
435	Grave	Earth cut grave
436	Grave	Brick-lined shaft grave
437	Grave	Brick-lined shaft grave
438	Coffin	Within 436
439	Skeleton	Within 438
440	Skeleton	Within 442
441	Fill	Fill of 442
442	Grave	Grave cut
AREA 3		
600	layer	Charnel layer
601	Grave cut	
602	fill	Fill of 601
603	coffin	Within 601
604	Skeleton	Within 601
605	Grave cut	
606	fill	Fill of 605
607	coffin	Within 605
608	Skeleton	Within 605
609	Grave cut	
610	fill	Fill of 610
611	coffin	Within 610
612	skeleton	Within 610
613	grave cut	
614	fill	Fill of 613
615	coffin	Within 613
616	skeleton	Within 613
617	layer	Graveyard soil through which all graves are cut
618	grave cut	
619	fill	Fill of 618
620	coffin	Within 618
621	skeleton	Within 618
622	skeleton	Below 621
623	group no.	Beneath 603: unexcavated
624	skeleton	Not excavated
625	skeleton	Renumbered as 377
626	grave	Brick-lined shaft grave
627	grave	Brick-lined shaft grave

Context Number	Context Type	Description
628	wall	N wall of chancel
629	wall	E wall of 1862 north aisle
630	cut	Function unclear
631	fill	Fill of 630
AREA 4		
800	grave	Brick-lined shaft grave (previously numbered as 370)
801	grave	Brick-lined shaft grave
802	coffin	Within 800
803	skeleton	Within 800
804	layer	Victorian infill of stair
805	structure	Lower offset / underpinning of south wall, rel. stair 806
806	structure	Former lateral stairwell serving 14th-century crypt
807	structure	Robbed out wall rel. stair 806
808	cut	Truncated earth cut grave
809	skeleton	Within 808
810	layer	Light-mid brown silty loam; former graveyard soil
811	layer	Red-brown silty clay; natural subsoil
812	cut	Construction cut (Victorian services)
813	fill	Fill of 812
814	cut	Construction cut for 14th-century crypt
815	fill	Fill of 814
816	skeleton	Skeleton observed in section only
817	cut	Grave cut with stone lining; truncated to south and east
818	skeleton	Sub adult burial within grave cut 817
819	skeleton	Young adult burial within 820 (?medieval)
820	cut	Grave cut (pre-dates construction of south aisle)
821	skeleton	Adult burial (pre-dates construction of south aisle)
822	skeleton	Adult female burial (medieval)
823	skeleton	Adult ?male burial (medieval)
824	cut	Construction cut for wall west wall (374) of south aisle
825	fill	Fill of 824
826	skeleton	?Saxon charcoal burial
827	fill	Charcoal fill of 829
828	fill	Gravel fill of 829
829	cut	Grave cut for skeleton 826 (charcoal burial)
830	fill	Charcoal fill of 832
831	skeleton	?Saxon charcoal burial
832	cut	Grave cut for 831(charcoal burial)
833	fill	Charcoal fill of 832
834	fill	Gravel fill of 837
835	skeleton	Burial within 837, charcoal 'packing' to each side of skeleton
836	fill	Charcoal fill of 837
837	cut	Grave cut for skeleton 835 (charcoal burial)
838	fill	Charcoal fill of 837
839	fill	Fill of 837: possible remains of organic 'container' for burial
840	cut	Grave cut for skeleton 842
841	fill	Fill of 840
842	skeleton	Burial within 840 lower legs only: truncated by west wall of aisle
843	cut	Grave cut
844	fill	Fill of 843
845	cut	Grave cut for 846 (charcoal burial)
846	skeleton	Fragmentary male burial within 845
847	fill	Sandy gravel fill of grave cut 845
848	skeleton	Fragmentary burial within 854 (heavily truncated)
849	cut	Grave cut for skeleton 859 (charcoal burial)

Context Number	Context Type	Description
850	fill	Sand and gravel fill of 849
851	cut	Grave cut (charcoal burial)
852	fill	Sandy gravel fill of 851
853	fill	Charcoal 'lining' of grave cut 845
854	cut	?grave cut (tentative) for skeleton 848
855	skeleton	?female skeleton within 858
856	fill	Sandy gravel fill of 858
857	fill	Charcoal fill of 858
858	cut	Grave cut for skeleton 855 (charcoal burial)
859	skeleton	Adult burial within 849
860	fill	Charcoal fill of grave cut 849
861	fill	Charcoal fill of grave cut 851
862	skeleton	Fragmentary burial within cut 851
863	cut	Grave cut for skeleton 865
864	fill	Sand and gravel fill of 863
865	skeleton	Truncated burial within cut 863
866	layer	Subsoil (same as 811)
440	skeleton	?Saxon charcoal burial
441	fill	Fill of 442
442	cut	Grave cut for 440 (charcoal burial)

Appendix B: Details of Shaft Graves

area	ctx. no.	Grave Dimensions					Depth	coffin no.	coffin type	comments
		length	width (H)	width (F)	width (WP)	width (WP)				
1	131	2.12m	0.55m	0.43m	0.79m	>0.86m	132	triple shell - lead lined		
1	137	2.20m	0.50m	N/K	0.90m	>1.50m	138	triple shell - lead lined	upper burial identified: Mary Ward, died 1841	
1	139	N/K	0.36m	N/K	N/K	N/K	140	triple shell - lead lined		
1	141	2.17m	N/K	0.39m	N/K	N/K	142	single shell timber		
2	303	1.90m	0.60m	N/K	>0.70m	>1.50m	---	not investigated		
2	305	2.04m	0.44m	0.35m	0.72m	N/K	---	not investigated		
2	307	2.15m	0.42m	N/K	0.72m	>0.95m	---	not investigated		
2	309	2.33m	0.73m	0.60m	0.96m	>1.75m	---	not investigated		
2	311	2.38m	0.40m	0.28m	0.60m	N/K	---	not investigated		
2	313	2.20m	N/K	0.32m	0.60m	N/K	---	not investigated		
2	315	---	---	---	---	---	---	not investigated	full extent not exposed	
2	317							not investigated	intact barrel vault; not investigated further	
2	322	2.28m	---	---	0.72m	N/K	---	not investigated	capping only	
2	326	2.37m	---	---	0.80m	N/K	---	not investigated	capping only	
2	328	2.40m	---	---	0.90m	N/K	---	not investigated	capping only	
2	330	2.20m	0.51m	N/K	0.74m	>1.00m				
2	332	2.20m	N/K	0.32m	0.80m	>0.60m	333	single shell timber		
2	334	2.28m	---	---	0.90m	N/K	---	not investigated	capping only	
2	336	2.20m	N/K	N/K	1.40m	N/K	fragments	triple shell - lead lined		
2	338	2.12m	0.38m	0.35m	0.61m	N/K	---	not investigated		
2	345	2.17m	0.42m	0.30m	0.75m	>1.00m	346	double shell timber	further coffin visible beneath	
2	347	2.29m	0.44m	N/K	0.74m	N/K	348	single shell timber	upper burial identified: Elizabeth Hardaway died Sept. 15th 1813, Aged 81 years	
2	349	---	---	---	---	---	---	not investigated	not investigated further	
2	351	---	---	---	---	---	yes	not investigated	not investigated further	
2	353	2.15m	---	---	0.70m	N/K	---	not investigated	capping only	
2	368	---	---	---	---	---	---	not investigated	full extent not exposed	
2	378	2.13m	0.48m	0.34m	0.72m	>0.60m	379	prob. lead lined	not investigated further	
2	395	2.13m	0.35m	0.33m	0.62m	N/K	408	single shell timber		
2	396	2.10m	N/K	0.30m	0.70m	>1.02m	---	not investigated	not investigated further	
2	397	2.06m	0.42m	0.36m	0.84m	N/K	yes	single shell timber	not investigated further	
2	398	---	---	---	---	---	---	not investigated	not investigated further	
2	400	---	---	---	---	---	---	not investigated	not investigated further	

area	ctx. no.	Grave Dimensions					coffin no.	coffin type	comments
		length	width (H)	width (F)	width (WP)	Depth			
2	401	2.06m	0.38m	0.33m	0.65m	0.49m	402	single shell timber	grave unavoidably impacted by engineering; emptied (7.ix.1999) Necropolis
2	403	2.04m	0.38m	0.35m	0.68m	>1.25m	404	single shell timber	further coffin visible beneath
2	405	2.04m	0.39m	0.37m	0.64m	1.17m	406	single shell timber	grave unavoidably impacted by engineering; emptied (7.ix.1999) Necropolis
2	409	---	---	---	---	---	---	not investigated	not investigated further
2	419	---	---	---	---	---	---	not investigated	not investigated further
2	420	2.18m	0.42m	0.35m	N/K	>1.53m	421	single shell timber	not investigated further
2	422	2.05m	N/K	0.36m	0.65m	>0.50m	423	single shell timber	not investigated further
2	424	2.23m	0.35m	0.33m	0.66m	>0.75m	---	not investigated	capping included re-used 17th-century headstone
2	426	2.07m	0.36m	0.31m	0.63m	N/K	---	not investigated	not investigated further
2	428	1.96m	N/K	0.29m	0.63m	N/K	---	not investigated	not investigated further
2	430	1.90m	---	---	1.00m	N/K	---	not investigated	brick capping intact: not investigated further
3	626	1.69m	---	---	0.71m	N/K	---	not investigated	exposed in plan only
3	627	2.10m	---	---	0.68m	>1.20m	---	not investigated	cut through footing of east wall of north aisle (1832/4 extension)
4	800	2.10m	N/K	0.30m	0.56m	N/K	802	timber with Fe fittings	
4	801	---	---	---	---	---	---	not investigated	not investigated further

APPENDIX C: Inventory of Memorials

A total of 6 complete or fragmented memorial slabs were exposed beneath the 20th century marble floor of the chancel (Area 1, see Figure 13b). The details of the memorial slabs were as follows:

MEMORIAL SLAB 1

Dimensions: 2.13m x 1.09m x 0.08m thick

Preservation: complete, 5 fragments

Condition: excellent though broken; possibility of repair

Inscription:

**RICHARDUS HOLLOWAY MILES OBIIT
18^o DECEMBRUS 1699 ÆTAT:73
ET
ALICIA UXOR EJUS 7^o : SEPT: 1672**

MEMORIAL SLAB 2

Dimensions: 1.86m x 0.95m x 0.09m thick

Preservation: Complete

Condition: Good

Inscription:

**In Memory of
THOMAS WILMOT
Maltster and Brewer in
This Parish who died Nov^r
The 7th 1741 aged 43 years
Also in Memory of
EDWARD ALLEN who Died
Nov^r 7th: 1761 Aged 48
And also in memory of
MARGARET ALLEN who Died
Augst the 19th 1777 Aged 76**

MEMORIAL SLAB 3

Dimensions: 1.85m x 0.94m x 0.10m thick

Preservation: 2 fragments

Condition: Poor, badly worn

Inscription: Not legible (?poss. EDMUND GREEN)

MEMORIAL SLAB 4 (= upper half of slab 6)

Dimensions: 0.91m x 0.74m x

Preservation: 1 fragment constitutes half of a complete slab (with slab 6)

Condition: Good

Inscription:

**In memory
of JANE the Wife of
JOHN GRAY
of this Parish
who died June 10th 1748
Also
ANN Wife of THO^s. GRAY
Died Oct^r 6th 1808 Aged 48**

MEMORIAL SLAB 5

Dimensions: 1.82m x 0.87m x

Preservation: 4 fragments

Condition: Good

Inscription:

**In Memory of
WILL: COLE, who died (innkeeper)
(D)ecember y^e I, A^o Dⁿⁱ. 1701**

MEMORIAL SLAB 6 (= lower half of slab 4)

Dimensions: 0.91 x 0.74 x

Preservation: 1 fragment constitutes half of a complete slab (with slab 6)

Condition: Good

Inscription:

**Also
JOHN GRAY
Who died Aug^t 27: 1760
Aged 80 years**

**Also
THOMAS GRAY
Died March 23^d: 1836
Aged 75 Years**



A series of memorial slabs (nos. 8 - 22) were recorded *in-situ* within the area of the top altar step where they formed the lowest of a series of altar step surfaces exposed during work (see Figure 14a).

MEMORIAL SLAB 8

Dimensions: 0.82m x 1.97m

Preservation: complete

Condition: fair

Inscription:

**Hic reconditae sunt
Reliquiae
Thomae Nowell STP
(Au)lae B.M.V per annos 38
Principalis
E- Histor. Mod. Professoris Reg.
Nec non
Saræ uxoris dilectissimæ
et
Thomæ filii eorum unici**

	23° sep ^{ris}	1801		74°
ob	7° Nov ^{ris}	1800	Ætat	69°
	5° Jan ⁱⁱ	1768		2 ^{do}

MEMORIAL SLAB 9

Dimensions: 0.74m x 1.50m

Preservation: complete

Condition: poor - fair, illegible in places

Inscription:

**(GRACE TREDWELL)
(March) 2 1757**

**THOMAS MUNDAY
OCT 26 179-
Aged 76 Years**

**Dame SARAH MUNDAY
Widow of S^r THOMAS MUNDAY
And Daughter
Of JOSIAH & GRACE TREDWELL
Died Aug 4: 1778
Aged 79 Years**

MEMORIAL SLAB 10

Dimensions: 0.33m x 0.33m

Preservation: complete

Condition: poor, badly worn

Inscription:

**G.F.
Subtus Dormit**

MEMORIAL SLAB 11

Dimensions: 0.25m x 0.42m

Preservation: incomplete

Condition: fair though badly worn, part of inscription missing

Inscription: (diagonally set text within square slab)

**HERE
LIETH Y
BODY OF
EPHIRAM ROWLUT
WHO DEPART THIS L--
THE 10TH DAY SEPT---
DYED IN THE ---
OF THE RIGHT----
L^D CAS II
X CII**

MEMORIAL SLAB 12

Dimensions: 0.39m x 0.39m

Preservation: complete

Condition: Good though cracked

Inscription: (diagonally set text within square slab)

**Hic jacet
JANA GREEN
Nat.14 Junij 1730 Ob: 20 Martij 1753
Quam idem qui fratrem Jacobum morbus
Abripuit**

(NB: Daughter of Jacob Green Memorial 12)

MEMORIAL SLAB 13

Dimensions: 0.39m x 0.39m

Preservation: complete

Condition: fair, quite worn

Inscription: (diagonally set text within square slab)

**Subtus jacet
JACOBUS GREEN
Nat. ji Julij 1734 Ob: 11----1749
Abripuit
Sed
Tantillium quidem commodu**

MEMORIAL SLAB 14

Dimensions: 0.74m x 0.72m

Preservation: complete

Condition: poor, mostly illegible

Inscription:

**(JOHN FLUDG)ER
.....Rector**

Objit pertio

Ætatis su(æ).....1773

MEMORIAL SLAB 15

Dimensions: 0.56m x 0.56m

Preservation: complete

Condition: badly damaged, illegible in places

Inscription: (diagonally set text within square slab)

**Qui Ob. Ap(ril...)
Lt. SARAH ROGERS
Mater ejus
Ouæ Ob. Maij. j^{mo}
1767**

MEMORIAL SLAB 16

Dimensions: 0.54m x 0.54m

Preservation: complete

Condition: poor, for the most part illegible due to adhering cement

Inscription:

(T)he bo(dy)
(JOH)N PO(TTEL)
who died Jan...
1761 aged 69

MEMORIAL SLAB 17

Dimensions: 0.87m x 1.06m

Preservation: complete

Condition: excellent

Inscription:

In Memory of
ROGER BRENT M.A.
Fellow of Pembroke College
upwards of Forty Years
and Rector of this Church
Eleven Years
He Died *Aug. 22.1754*
Aged 66

MEMORIAL SLAB 18 (compare VESTRY 1)

Dimensions: 0.86m x 1.70m

Preservation: complete

Condition: excellent

Inscription:

HIC JACET
GEORGIUS LOW
ARMIG: OBJIT 1682

MEMORIAL SLAB 19

Dimensions: 0.33m x 0.29m

Preservation: incomplete

Condition: fair

Inscription:

**SARAH POTTLE
(D)ied August y^e 18 1(775)
Aged -4**

MEMORIAL SLAB 20

Dimensions: 0.18m x 0.23m

Preservation: fragmentary

Condition: fair

Inscription:

**IOAN
of M**

MEMORIAL SLAB 21

Dimensions: 0.33m x 0.35m

Preservation: complete

Condition: fair

Inscription:

**HERE LYE THE
BODY OF THO
MAS JACKSON
RSER WHO DECEASED OCTOBER THE --
1669**

MEMORIAL SLAB 22

Dimensions: 0.94m x 1.50m

Preservation: complete though in two fragments

Condition: good – excellent, though broken

Inscription:

(In memo) ry of
(?BENJA) MIN TUBB
(Di)ed August 9th 1791
(Age)d 63 Years
(?Th) e Wife of JOHN TUBB
Jan. 14 1801 Aged 36
(D) aughter died in her infancy
(Wi) fe of BENJAMIN TUBB
Died Jan 26 1803 Aged 79
JOHN Son of BEN & MARY TUBB
Died Jan 20 1820 Aged 69
THOMAS WILLIAM BEST
Died Dec.31 1822 Aged 62
MARY EIZth ABREY Daughter of
THOs WILL^m & ELIZth BEST



Miscellaneous Memorials and Headstones

A number of memorial slabs were retrieved during ground reduction works (Area 2). All memorials were retrieved from secondary contexts having been reused either as capping slabs for brick lined shaft graves or as the base for Victorian service ducts. The process of re-use has, in many cases, involved the cutting down of the original stone and has resulted in damage to the inscribed surfaces.

MEMORIAL 23 (Re-used as capping slab to grave 332)

Type: Headstone

Dimensions: 0.42m x 0.88m x 0.10m thick

Preservation: complete

Condition: good

Inscription:

**I.B.
Died 1697/8
Aged 8 Years**

MEMORIAL 24

Type: Memorial slab

Dimensions: 0.42m x 0.43m x 0.10m thick

Preservation: complete

Condition: good though chipped

Inscription:

**To the Memory of
MARY ELIZA STACEY
Born August 25 1789
Died Sept^r. 13 1789**

MEMORIAL 25

Type: Memorial slab

Dimensions: 0.38m x 0.42m x 0.08m thick

Preservation: complete

Condition: good

Inscription:

**I.H.
1699**

MEMORIAL 26

Type: Memorial slab

Dimensions: 0.37m x 0.37m x 0.03m thick

Preservation: complete

Condition: good though worn

Inscription:

GEAGLE BADCOCK
Died March 21 A.D. 1802
Aged 77

MEMORIAL 27

Type: Memorial slab

Dimensions: 0.46m x 0.46m x 0.07m thick

Preservation: complete

Condition: fair

Inscription:

JOHN DAVIS
Died Dec^r. 15. 1760
ELIZTH his wife 1765

MEMORIAL 28

Type: Memorial slab

Dimensions: Marble memorial 0.38m x 0.38m x 0.09m thick set within rectangular slab
0.74m x 0.61m

Preservation: complete

Condition: good though worn

Inscription:

Hic jacet prope
THOMAS BARNARD Armig
Clericus Municipalis Oxoniensis
Ob. 31 Aug 1746 Ætatis 45
Melius est Nomen
Divilijs Amplis

MEMORIAL 29

Type: Headstone; segmented head

Dimensions: 0.30m x 0.64m x 0.05m thick

Preservation: broken to bottom and LHS

Condition: good

Inscription:

F.B.M.

MEMORIAL 30

Type: Memorial Slab

Dimensions: 0.38m x 0.67m x 0.14m thick

Preservation: incomplete, broken to LHS

Condition: poor, inscription barely legible

Inscription:

**IOH their
March the 8th
v cars...**

MEMORIAL 31

Type: Memorial slab

Dimensions: 0.36m x 0.62m x 0.08m thick

Preservation: incomplete, broken to top bottom and LHS

Condition: very worn

Inscription:

**of JOHN ROGER
of CHRIST-CH(URCH)
Who died....
Aged....**

MEMORIAL 32

Type: Headstone; segmented head

Dimensions: 0.52m x 0.31m x 0.08m thick

Preservation: incomplete, broken at base

Condition: fair - good

Inscription:

B. + C.

1810

MEMORIAL 33

Type: Memorial Slab

Dimensions: 0.54m x 0.30m x 0.07m thick

Preservation: incomplete, broken to all sides save small part of RHS

Condition: very worn, for the most part illegible

Inscription:

**.....Ho(en?)rbury
..ry lamented..
1798 Aged 26**

MEMORIAL 34

Type: memorial slab

Dimensions: 0.57m x 0.42m x 0.07m max. thickness

Preservation: incomplete, broken at top btm and LHS

Condition: very worn

Inscription:

**...second
MAI STOCKFORD
Dragoon to the Oxford
Dragoons....
Professional Abilites
Ivate vertue...a..I..
Amiable honors**

MEMORIAL 35

Type: memorial slab

Dimensions: 0.40m x 0.44m x 0.07m thick

Preservation: fragmentary

Condition:

Inscription:

(A)ged

MEMORIAL 36

Type: memorial slab

Dimensions: 0.60m x 0.34m x 0.07m thick

Preservation: incomplete

Condition:

Inscription:

...HN KEF.....
...LARY his Wife
2th of SEP

MEMORIAL 37

Type: slab

Dimensions: 0.50m x 0.57m x 0.10m thick

Preservation: incomplete, broken top and bottom

Condition: poor; writing to lower half very worn becoming illegible

Inscription:

Enough cold stone
Still.....then long lovd....
Words are no weak(er)..
...y their Dutys cla...
Temple and T....

.....

MEMORIAL 38

Type: memorial slab

Dimensions: 0.52m x 0.40m x 0.065m thick

Preservation: incomplete, surviving LHS otherwise broken

Condition: badly worn and flaking

Inscription:

**JO (?HN)..
and.....
She died.....
Aged.....
He di (ed).....**

MEMORIAL 39

Type: slab

Dimensions: 0.40m x 0.38m x 0.095m thick

Preservation: incomplete, part of RHS otherwise broken

Condition: badly worn

Inscription:

**...ais
...N ESTER
....9 1830**

MEMORIAL 40

Type: memorial slab

Dimensions: 0.61m x 0.46m x 0.07m thick

Preservation: incomplete, represents upper LHS of larger ledger slab

Condition: poor

Inscription:

**UNDERNEA (TH)
This stone li (eth the)
Remains...**

MEMORIAL 41 (re-used as capping slab to grave 424)

Type: Headstone (segmented head)

Dimensions: 0.405m x 0.81m x 0.07m thick (chamfered to rear)

Preservation: complete

Condition: good

Inscription:

**Here lyeth the
Body of ALICE
the Wife of Rober^t
Panting, She died
MAY Y^E 9 A^O D^N
1665**

MEMORIAL 42 (re-used as capping slab to grave 396)

Type: Headstone (segmented head)

Dimensions: 0.45m x 0.75m x 0.10m thick (chamfered to rear)

Preservation: complete

Condition: good

Inscription:

**Here lyeth the body
of Robert Panting
hee departed this
life the 27th of Feb
Anno Dom 1656
in y^e yeare of his age
53**

MEMORIAL 43 (re-used as capping slab to grave 396)

Type: Headstone

Dimensions: 0.53m x 0.53m (decorated head with scrolls and central skull)

Preservation: broken to bottom

Condition: fair, inscription barely legible

Inscription:

**Here lieth the body
of RICHARD
GRAFF.....who
Died1722
Aged 79 Years**

MEMORIAL 44

Type: memorial slab

Dimensions: 0.50m x 0.49m x 0.055m thick

Preservation: incomplete, broken top and bottom

Condition: fair

Inscription:

**J.G.
1795
H.G.
18...**

MEMORIAL 45

Type: headstone

Dimensions: 0.50m x 1.00m x 0.08m thick

Preservation: incomplete, broken at top

Condition: fair – good

Inscription:

**W.L.
1794
M.H.
1824
J.H.
1837**

MEMORIAL 46

Type: memorial slab

Dimensions: 0.61m x 0.45m

Preservation: incomplete, broken to LHS and RHS

Condition: quite badly worn with concrete adhering – inscription difficult to read

Inscription:

**M. BROWN
15 Apr. 1787
Aged 77
....his Wife
....1795
(Age)d 76
....their son
....Oct 1804**

MEMORIAL 47

Type: memorial slab

Dimensions: 0.91m x 0.62m x 0.06m thick

Preservation: incomplete, represents top part of larger rectangular slab

Condition: good

Inscription:

**Here lyeth the Body
of JOHN BURNHAM
Late of this Parish *Maltster*
Who departed this life May the 25
1728
Aged 60 Years**

MEMORIAL 48

Type: memorial slab

Dimensions: 0.89m x 0.86m x 0.05m thick

Preservation: incomplete, represents top half of ledger slab

Condition: good

Inscription:

**In memory of
OLIVER JONES of this Parish:
Who after having dischargd the several trusts
Deposd in him with INTEGRITY
Died Nov. 9 1729 Aged 65
With the Character of
an Honest Man**

**Likewise of (?)JOAN his Wife
Daughter of ROBERT PENN Esq
Of SOUTH NEWINGTON in the County.**

.....

MEMORIAL 49

Type: memorial slab

Dimensions: 0.69m x 0.55m x 0.10m thick

Preservation: incomplete, broken at top and RHS

Condition: fair

Inscription:

....HANN MEE....
Coll. Pemb: S....

Simplex Erudit...
Qui Obiit Die 8...
Anno Dⁿⁱ
Ætatis suæ...

MEMORIAL 50

Type: memorial slab

Dimensions: 0.75m x 0.91m x 0.06m thick

Preservation: incomplete, represents top of ledger slab

Condition: good

Inscription:

**In Memory of
IOSEPH MAYOW of this City
Mercer who died May -3 1721
Aged -8 Years
And MARY his Wife who died Mai
19: 1687 And also ELIZABETH
his Second Wife who died Aug.26
1718 And ELIZABETH his Dau
ghter who died June....**

....

MEMORIAL 51

Type: memorial slab

Dimensions: 1.82m x 0.91m x 0.11m thick

Preservation: complete, though broken into two parts : possibility of repair

Condition: good

Inscription:

**THOMAS LAD
Died Sep^r Ye 29th 1740
Aged 51**

MEMORIAL 52

Type: memorial slab

Dimensions: 0.91m x 1.48m x 0.065m thick

Preservation: incomplete, most part of a large ledger slab, broken to LHS and top

Condition: good

Inscription:

**Also
ELIZABETH his Wife
...separated this life Jan: the 10th
1728/9
Aged 63 Years
..also lieth the body of JOHN the son
(of F) RANCIS and MARY WHITNEY
....Dec the 3 1741 Aged 17 Years
(EL)IZTH their Daughter She died Jan the 14th
1742 Aged 11 Years
In Memory of
FRANCIS WHITNEY, Father of
The above mentioned JOHN & ELIZTH: WHITNEY
Who died March the 17th 1752
Aged 252 Years
Also MARY his Wife who died
March ye 20th 1763 Aged 74
& of their Grand Children**

MEMORIAL 53

Type: memorial slab

Dimensions: 1.98m x 0.98m x 0.08m thick

Preservation: complete, save for a small section removed from the top edge

Condition: good

Inscription:

**Under this Stone lie the Remains of
DIANA KIRBY who Died April 24th 1743
Aged 80
Of JOHN KIRBY her Husband who
Died February 13th 1736 Aged 60
Of MARY ye Wife of WILLIAM TAMAN
Who Died December 13th 1786
And Also
Of MARY the Wife of JOSEPH
PARSONS who died December
1786 Aged 60
JOSEPH PARSONS
Died June 3 1797**

MEMORIAL 54

Type: memorial slab

Dimensions: 1.68m x 0.71m x 0.10m thick

Preservation: incomplete, broken to top. New break to middle possibility of repair

Condition: good

Inscription:

**....A EVERARD
JACET HOC FATENTE..LUCTUS
..BRE PUEPERÂ SOLUTÆ
...IO FLEBILIUS SEVERIUS
NO...(IT)PONERE TRISTIOR MARITUS
PRIVATA FORET NEC HASCE DIAS
...UN MARMOR ADINQUINASSET VMBRAS**

**Obijt 10 AUG 14 Ao Dm
MDXLXII**

MEMORIAL 55

Type: memorial slab

Dimensions: 1.91m x 0.84

Preservation: complete

Condition: good, though flaking in places

Inscription:

**Sacred to the Memory of
RICHARD GRAIN
Who died Dec179..
Aged 51 Years**

**ELIZABETH his Wife
Who died April 12 1811
Aged 6.. Years
Also Frances their son
Who died Dec 20 1809
Aged 38 Years
Also RACHEL their Daughter
Who died Jan 19: 1817
Aged 39 Years
Also JOHN their son
Who died March 8th 1817
Aged 19
Also JOHN their son
Who died March 8th 1817
Aged 19 Years**

MEMORIAL 56

Type: memorial slab

Dimensions: 1.69m x 0.85m X 0.11m thick

Preservation: complete

Condition: good

Inscription:

**MARY GRENEWAY
DIED THE 29 OF SEPT 16..3
JOHN GREENEWAY
DIED THE 11 OF JUNE 1685**

MEMORIAL 57

Type: memorial slab

Dimensions: 1.91m x 0.84

Preservation: complete

Condition: poor, very worn in places

Inscription:

**In Memory
(?HAN)NAH the Daughter of
JERIMIAH & AMBREY TREDWELL
Died July1751(?)
Aged ...Years**

**Also in Memory of
...AM the Daughter of
JERIMIAH & AMBREY TREDWELL
Who died August ye 20 1736
Aged 26 Years**

MEMORIAL 58

Type: memorial slab

Dimensions: 1.91m x 0.84

Preservation: almost complete though missing lower RHS

Condition: good

Inscription:

**Sacred to the Memory of
THO^s HARDAWAY who departed this
Life Sep^r ye 2: 1756 Aged 60
Also SUSANNA his Wife who died
Augst ye 13 1767 Aged 66 (or 67)
Also of ANNE their Daughter
Who died Dec. 22: 179..
Also of ELIZTH the(ir Daughter)
Who died Sep^r 1st 18(13)**

MEMORIAL 59

Type: memorial slab

Dimensions: 1.50m x 0.91 x 0.08m thick

Preservation: incomplete, parts of RHS and LHS intact, top and bottom broken

Condition: fair

Inscription:

**Anno Salutis 174...
 Ætatis**

**Here Lieth the Body of
ELIZABETH the Wife of
GEORGE SMITH**

**Who died Nov.....7..
1723**

Aged 29 Years

**Also 3 Children ELIZTH & ANN died
in their Infancy. ALICE died
...6 : Aged 3 Years**

**...the Body of W...
Nov 10th 1742**

**Body of GEORGE the son
(of) GEORGE and ELIZTH SMITH
Died Feb 14 1748/9**

MEMORIAL 60

Type: Headstone

Dimensions: 1.50m x 0.91 x 0.08m thick

Preservation: complete

Condition: good

Inscription:

**Here lyeth the BODY
Of MARY the WIFE OF
RICHARD COLTON
WHO
dECEASEd JVNE the 12
1678**

MEMORIAL 61

Type: memorial-slab

Dimensions: 0.46m x 0.35 max

Preservation: fragment only

Condition: poor - fair

Inscription:

**...ARC...
...on Brewer of thi (s Parish)
(D)IED APRIL....**

MEMORIALS FROM THE NW VESTRY

The following seven memorials removed from the north west vestry for relocation within the church.

MEMORIAL NUMBER: VESTRY 1

NB: recorded in Woods survey of Oxford as located on north wall of chancel (Clark 1899, 134). Compare Memorial 18.

Dimensions: oval 0.66m wide x 0.58m high

Preservation: complete

Condition: excellent

Inscription:

HIC JACET
GEORGIUS LOWE ARMIGER
EX ANTIQUA & GENEROSA FAMILIA
IN AGRO WILTS ORIUND, QUA VISTUTIB
SUIS MAGIS ETIAM NOBILITAVIT, QUERUS
PATRIÆ ATQUE BONIS OMNIB CHARISSIMUS
UTRISQUE PER QUADRAGINTA PLUS MINUS ANNOS
ILLUSTRI SENATORUM CURIA (PARLIAMENTU
VULGO DICUNT) NON MINORI SINGULORULA LAUDE
UNIVERSORUM COMMODO OPERAM DEDIT
OBJIT 19 NOVEM^B A^O D^N 1682
ÆTAT QUO 82 ANIS AT FAMA
SATUR & IAMEN SUIS
DESIDERATISSIMUS

MEMORIAL NUMBER: VESTRY 2

Dimensions: 0.67m wide x 0.98m high

Preservation: complete

Condition: excellent

Inscription:

Subtus deposita est una cum duobus Filiolis
RICARDO & IANA, pautulas horas natis
Lucretia RICARDI CARTER Armig.
Uxor Dni THO: TIPPING Equitis Aurati de
Wheatfield in COM Oxon: a Patre Neptis, a Matre
Vero EDUARDI COSYN, de Hillsly in Com
Gloucestriæ Armig Hæres:
Optima Fæmina, Marit amantisima,
Pauperum perpetua Fautrix, Omnibus flebis
Obijt 10^o die Feb: Ano Dom 1708
Ætatis suæ 23^o

Momentum hoc Uxori suæ desideratissimæ
RICARDUS CARTER mærens posuit.

MEMORIAL NUMBER: VESTRY 3

Dimensions: rectangular, 0.91m tall x 0.61m wide

Preservation: complete

Condition: excellent

Inscription:

***IOSEPHUS THOMÆ CANNENS Generosi Filius
DE VICO ROPLEY
In Agro HANTONIENSI Oraundus
COLL. PEMB. nuper Commensalis
Optimæ Spei iuvenis
Pro Annis Doctus, indole Suavssimus
Moribus Inculpatus et Facetus
Sine Fastu aut Levitate Pius
Amicus Omnibus
Omnibus Amandus
Sed Variolarum Morbo Correptus,
Et Prout Christianum decuit Succumbens
Omnibus Lugendus
Si ii sint Lugendi Qui Deo Chari
Non ravo a Terris
In ipso luventutis Flore
Propere rapintur ad Cælos***

Ætatis 18^{vo}

Anno

Salutis 1723

H.M.

**In Doloris et Charitatis Testimonium
Posuit Mærens Pater**



MEMORIAL NUMBER: VESTRY 4

Dimensions: rectangular, 1.07m tall x 0.62m wide

Preservation: complete

Condition: excellent

Inscription:

Læta Spe resurgendi
Juxta jacet HENRICUS LASHER
JOSUÆ LASHER M.D.
Consanguineus Hæresq
Qui cum Rei Medicamentariæ
Per quinquaginta ferme Annos
In hac Urbe Operam navarat;
Artem apprime utilem
Gentilitiæ haud immemor Laudis
Tantâ indagavit Solertiâ,
Fide tantâ excoluit et Probitate,
Ut Existimationem Medicis invidendam
Uno Ipse minor Nomine
Sibi conciliaverit.
A Negotijs demum bonestissimis
Cum Valetudini serviens propriæ
Aliquantisper recessisset;
Non tam Marbo
(Quippe quem Expertus amoliri novit)
Quam Senio peremptus est
14^{to} Die Sept^{ris}

Dom. 1752

Anno

Ætat. 78

Momentum hoc
ANNA GUYON Nepotis Filia
Pietatis Ergo
Posuit

MEMORIAL NUMBER: VESTRY 5

Dimensions: rectangular, 0.81m tall x 0.62m wide

Preservation: complete

Condition: excellent

Inscription:

*Juxta hoc Marmor Conduntor Ossa
Viri multis desideratissimi
JOSUÆ LASHER M:D:
Coll: Divi IONNIS Baptistæ olim Socij.,
Qui politioris Humanitatis, et Literarum Studia
Ad extremam usq Senectutem excoluit
Qui Medicinæ Artem, quam penitus perspexerat
Per annos prope quinquanginta
Sedulo, graviter, honeste exercuit,
Nec lucrum nec gloriolam aucupatus:
Amicorum Amiantissimus,
Amicis invicem merito percharus;
Inter Convivas hilaris, festivus nec infecetus
Haud suæ famæ negligens,
Vel alienæ laudis Obtrectator.
Ad Cathedram tandem evectus
Accuratos de veteri novaq Medicinâ,
Diu meditatus, penè consecerat Commentarios
Dum autem Scientiæ Fontes aperire allaboravit,
Nervorum Resolutione correptus
Mederi et prælegere desijt Professor Regius
Obijt Mart: 29 Anno Dom: 1729º Ætatis 82º
Hæc ne nescirent Posterî,
In Patruelis sui Memoriam,
Et grati animi Testimonium,
Momentum hoc posuit HENRICUS LASHER*

MEMORIAL NUMBER: VESTRY 6

Dimensions: rectangular, 0.91m tall x 0.61m wide

Preservation: complete

Condition: excellent

Inscription:

Subtus jacet
THOMAS Filius Unicus THOMÆ MILLER Generosi
De WHITEACRE Superiori in Agro VARVICENSI
COLL. PEMB. nuper Commensalis, et Ornamentum,
Cujus Suavis indoles, cum Rigido morum probitate conjuncta,
Vividum ingenium, Miro Judicio temperatum,
Diligens Liberatum Artium cultura,
Et Ingens in Bonis Literis longè ultra annos Profectus,
Vitam Illius omnibus Desideratissimam,
Et Mortem non minus Flebilem reddidère.
Delicias ah Breves sequitur et aretè premit Luctus:
Variotarum Morbus, quo Charus correptus est Juveis,
Peritissimi Medici (sic Fata votuerunt) elmsit Artem.
Eheu Gravis Collegii Dolor.
Cui non Talis sperandus est Allumnus;
Eheu Infanda Patris Anxietas,
Cui non Talis Filius;
Tu tatem Felix, imo Imdendus es Adolesens,
Te Mundus erat Indignus,
Tu Cælo Maturas eodem raptus es,
Ut Gloria plusquam Terrestri
Gloria in Excelsis Sempiternà
Cum Ipso Deo fruaris

Ætatis vigesimo

Obiit Anno

Domini MDCCXVII

Hoc Momentum Posuit Mærens Pater

MEMORIAL NUMBER: VESTRY 7

Dimensions: rectangular, 0.72 tall x 0.52m wide

Preservation: complete

Condition: excellent

Inscription:

Prope jacet

**GULI: FRANCKLYN de Chalton in Agro Hanton
Nuper Pemb: Coll: Alumus dignif:
Et munificus Benefactor;
Fil: Natu Min: Rev: ^{di} et Doctis Viri THO: FRANCKLYN A:M
Et Coll: Iesu quandam Socii.
Illinc ad Eccles: de Chalton Parochialem
A Celsis : et Nobilis : P : HEN : Duce de Beaufort advocatus,
P^astoralis Curæ tam fideliter incubuit,
Ut Greg suo et Patrono Charis: extiterit;
Et Deo eujus Gloriâ jam Lætus affulget.
Illi quinq; fuere Fillii hujus Academiæ Commens:
Attamen, ut primum Orbi Literato illuxere,
Prô dolor. Extincti.
Et nunquam Tatis defendi.
Quorum Guli. Ultimo desideratus
Theologiæ et Iuri Civili adea feliciter infudavit
Ut utriusq; ultra Annos iciens evaserit
Vir. Ob. Incorruptam Fidem nudamq; Veritatem
Ob Animu erga Egenos Munific : erga Omnes Benevol.
Eximie dilectus
Corpus variolaru labe fædatum
Detinct Sepulchrum
Pietatis ergo Hoc marmor
THOMASINA FRANCKLYN Mæstif Mater Posuit**

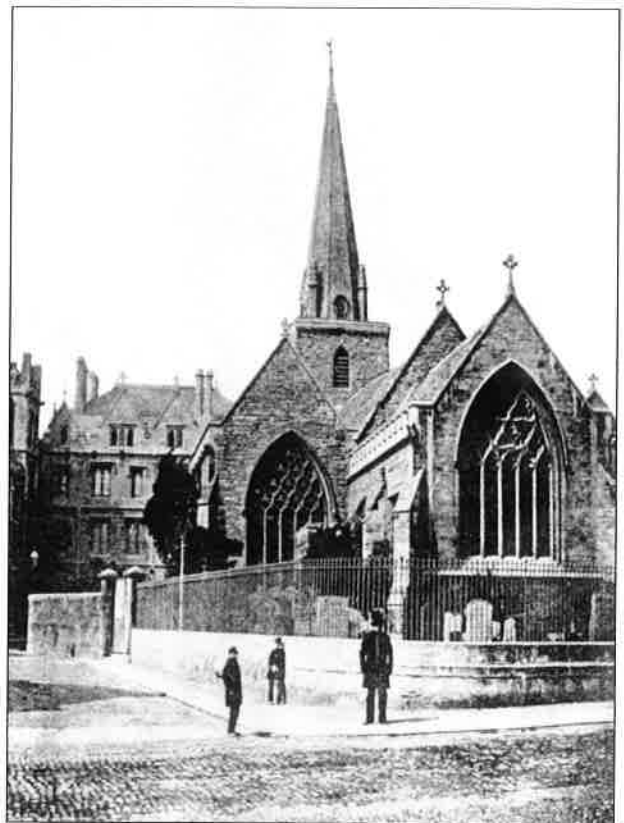
Ob. Nov 24
1718

Ætatis Suæ 27

Batterton Tyack Architects on behalf of
The Rector and Churchwardens of St Aldate's Church, Oxford

St Aldate's Church

Oxford

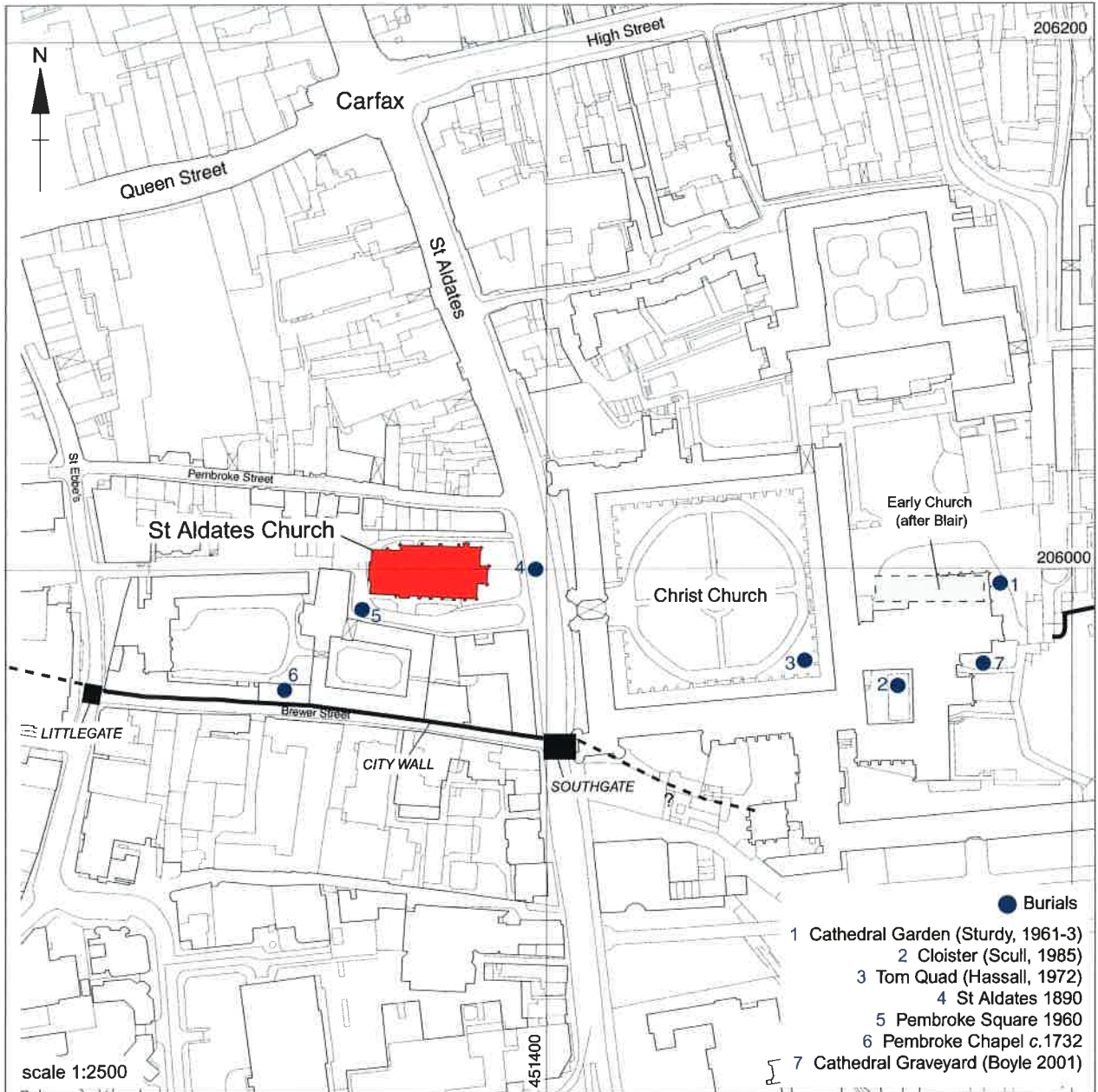


St Aldate's Church from the east c.1861

Figures

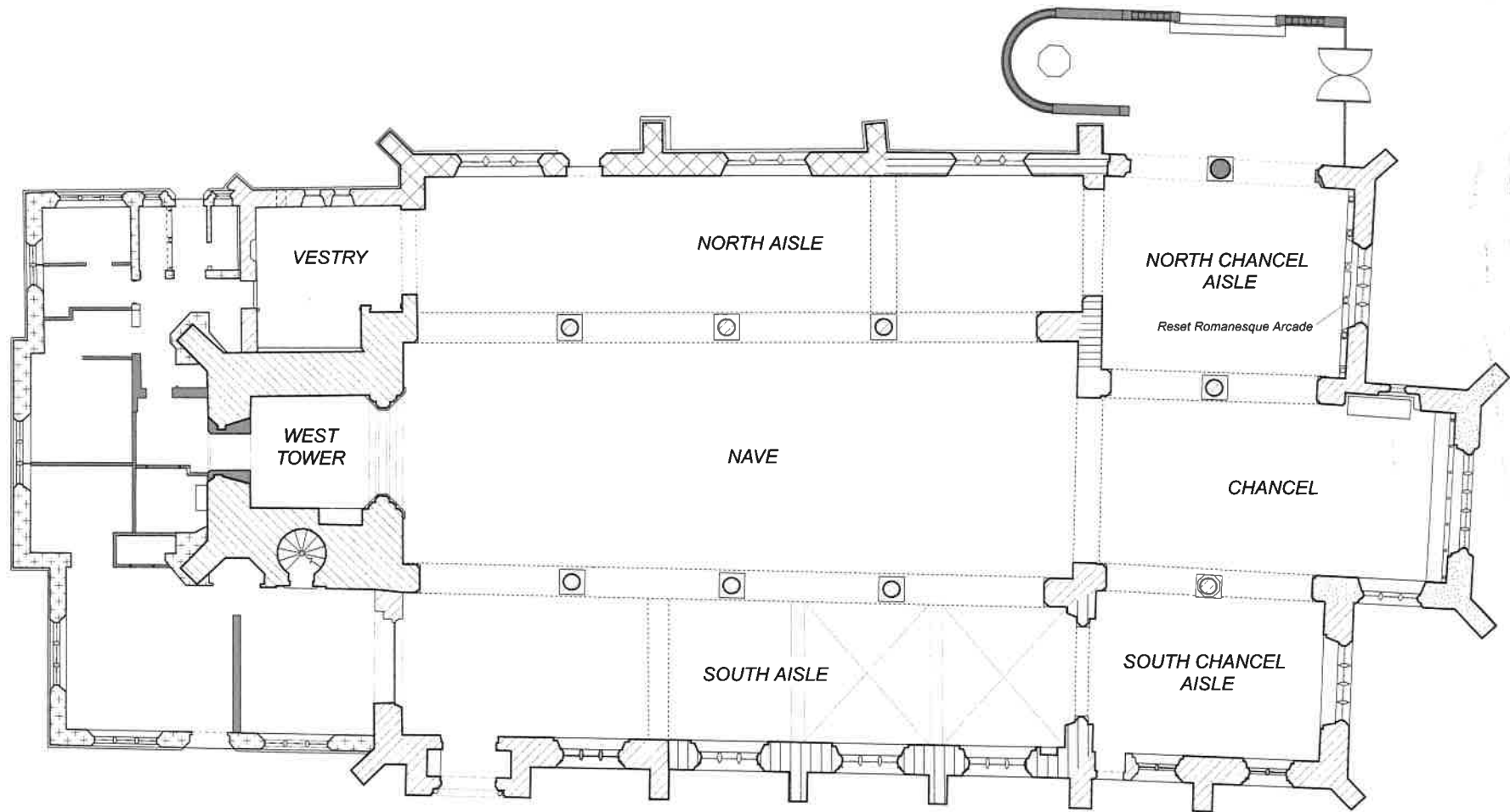


Oxford Archaeological Unit
June 2001











Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey's digital basemap of Oxford with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright. Licence No. 854166

Figure 1: site location
(including locations of burials referred to in the text)



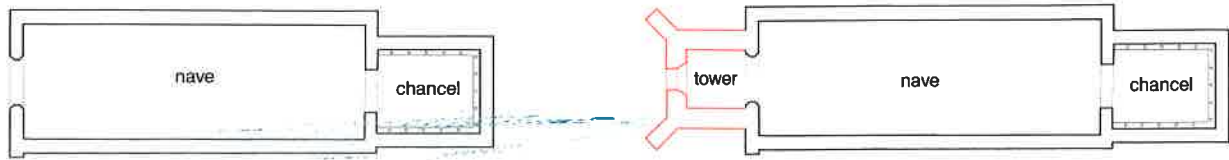
KEY TO PHASING

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--------------------------|
|  | 14th-century (c1334) Chantry Chapel with undercroft |  | 1862 Christopher Rebuild |
|  | 15th-century (1456) Chantry Chapel |  | 1871 Christopher Rebuild |
|  | Uncertain; 15th-16th century extension of chancel |  | 1962 Extension |
|  | 1832 /43 Underwood Extension |  | 1999/2000 Refurbishment |

0 10 metres

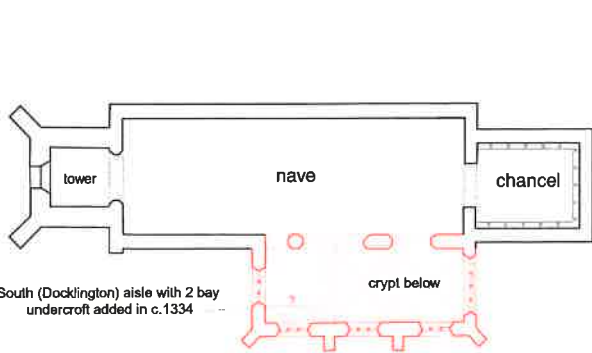
Scale 1:200

Figure 2: The Phasing of the standing church fabric



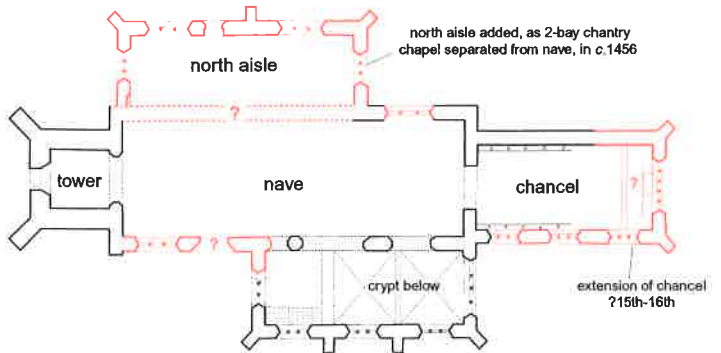
(a) 12th century

(b) 13th century



South (Dockington) aisle with 2 bay undercroft added in c.1334

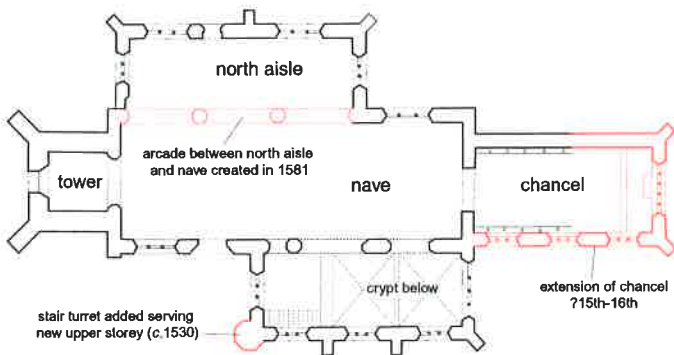
(c) 14th century



north aisle added, as 2-bay chantry chapel separated from nave, in c.1456

extension of chancel ?15th-16th

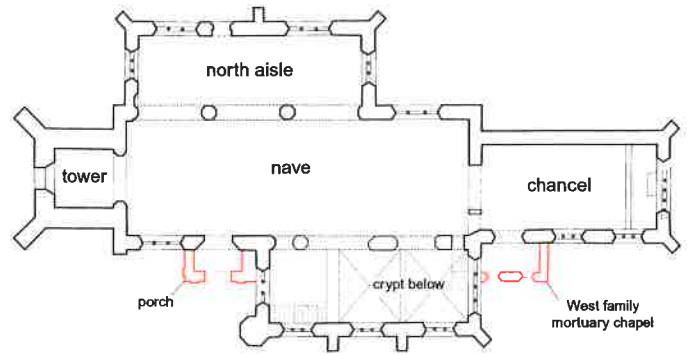
(d) 15th century



arcade between north aisle and nave created in 1581

stair turret added serving new upper storey (c.1530)

(e) 16th century



porch

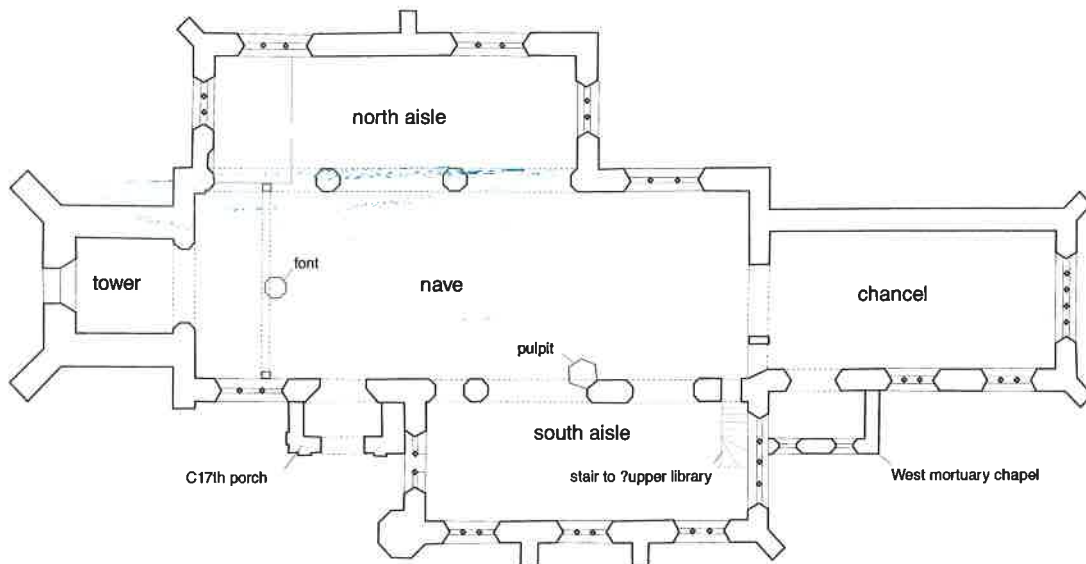
West family mortuary chapel

(f) 17th century

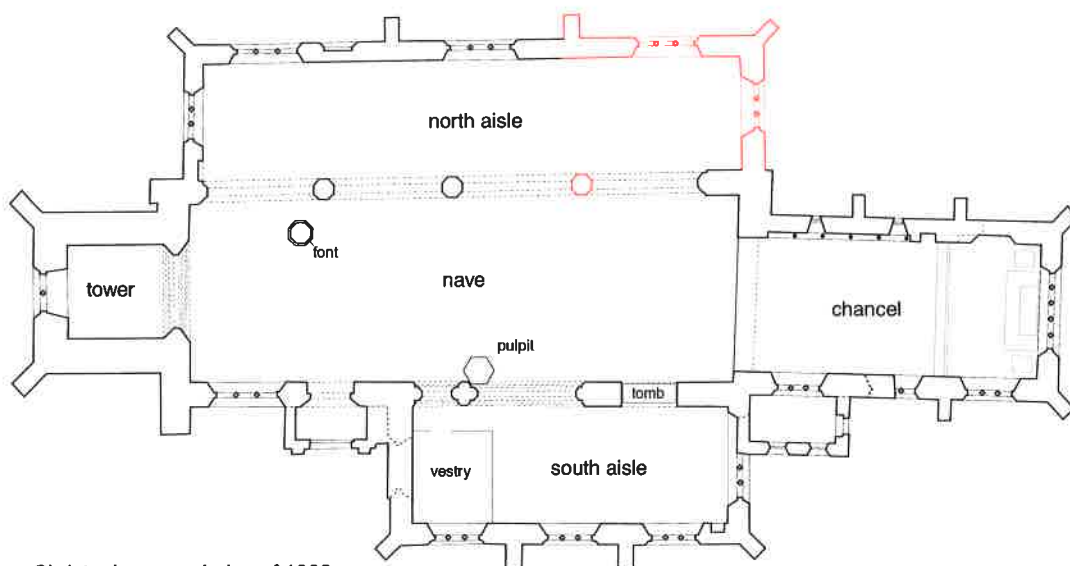


New work at each phase highlighted in red

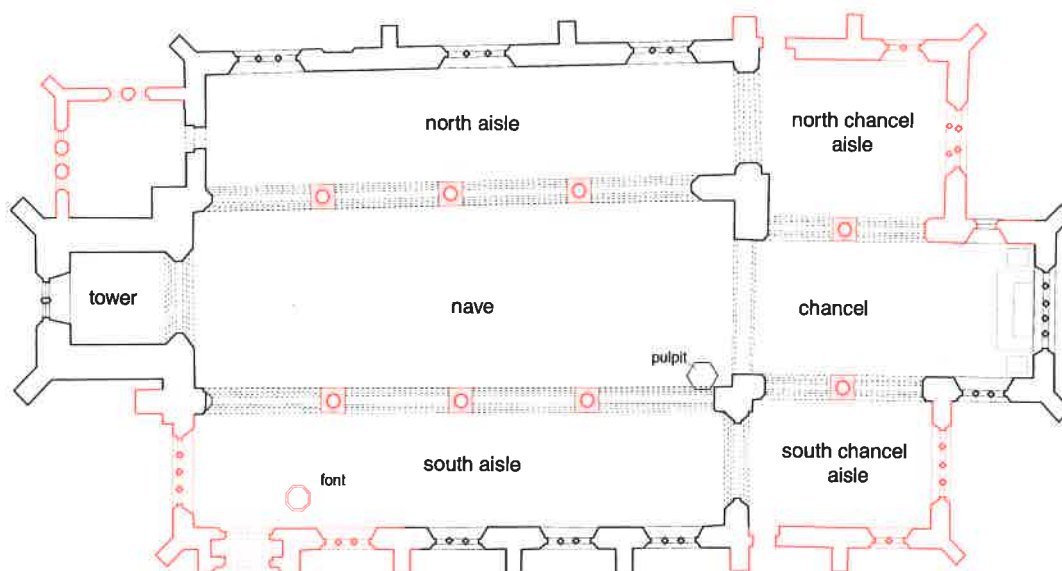
Figure 3: Conjectural development of Church from 12th - 17th century



(a) Plan before Underwoods Re-ordering of 1831-32



(b) Plan before Christopher re-ordering of 1862



(b) Plan after Christopher re-ordering of 1862



new work at each phase highlighted in red

Figure 4: Known later development of the church from 19th - 20th century; as shown in historic plans

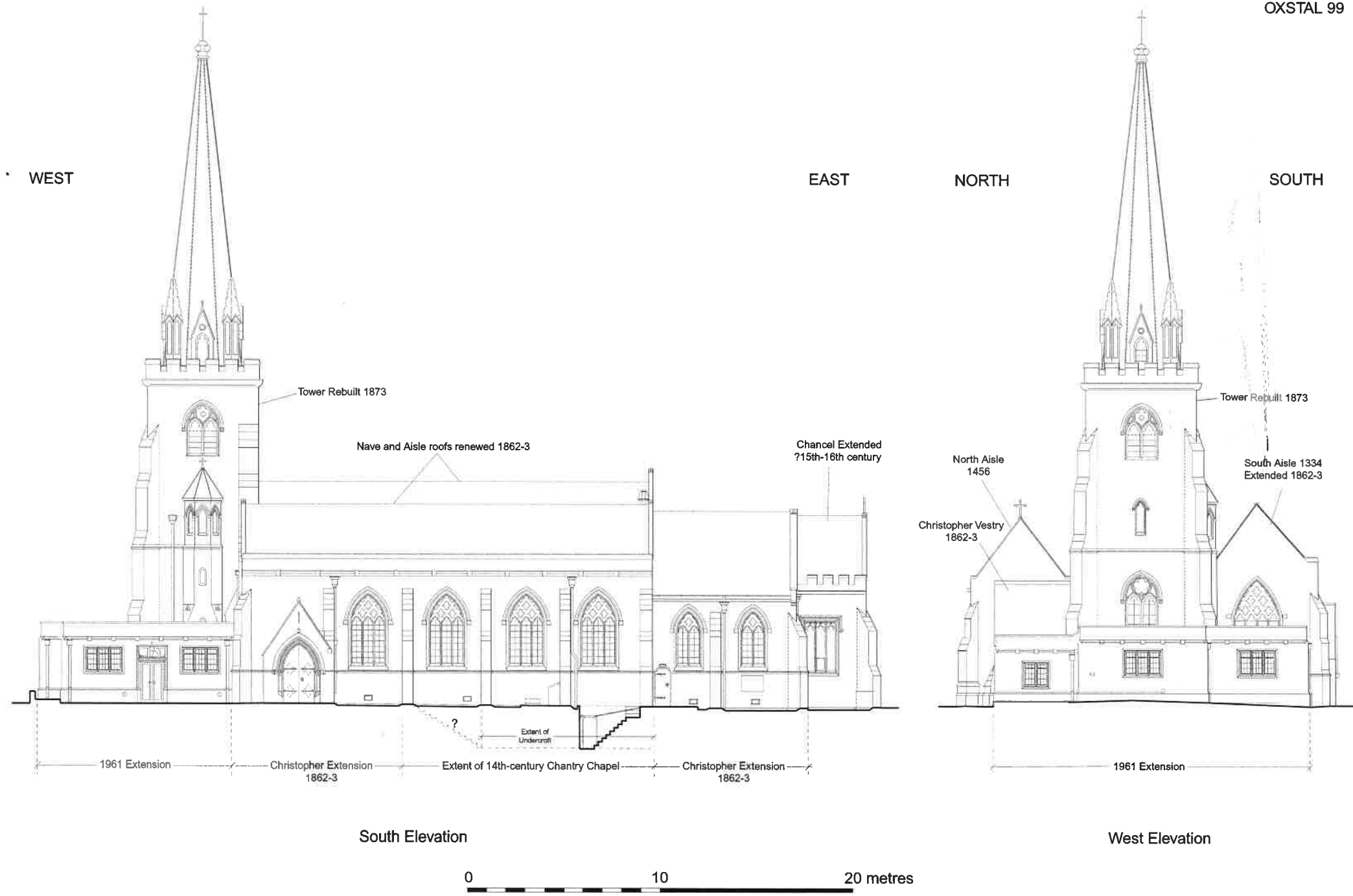
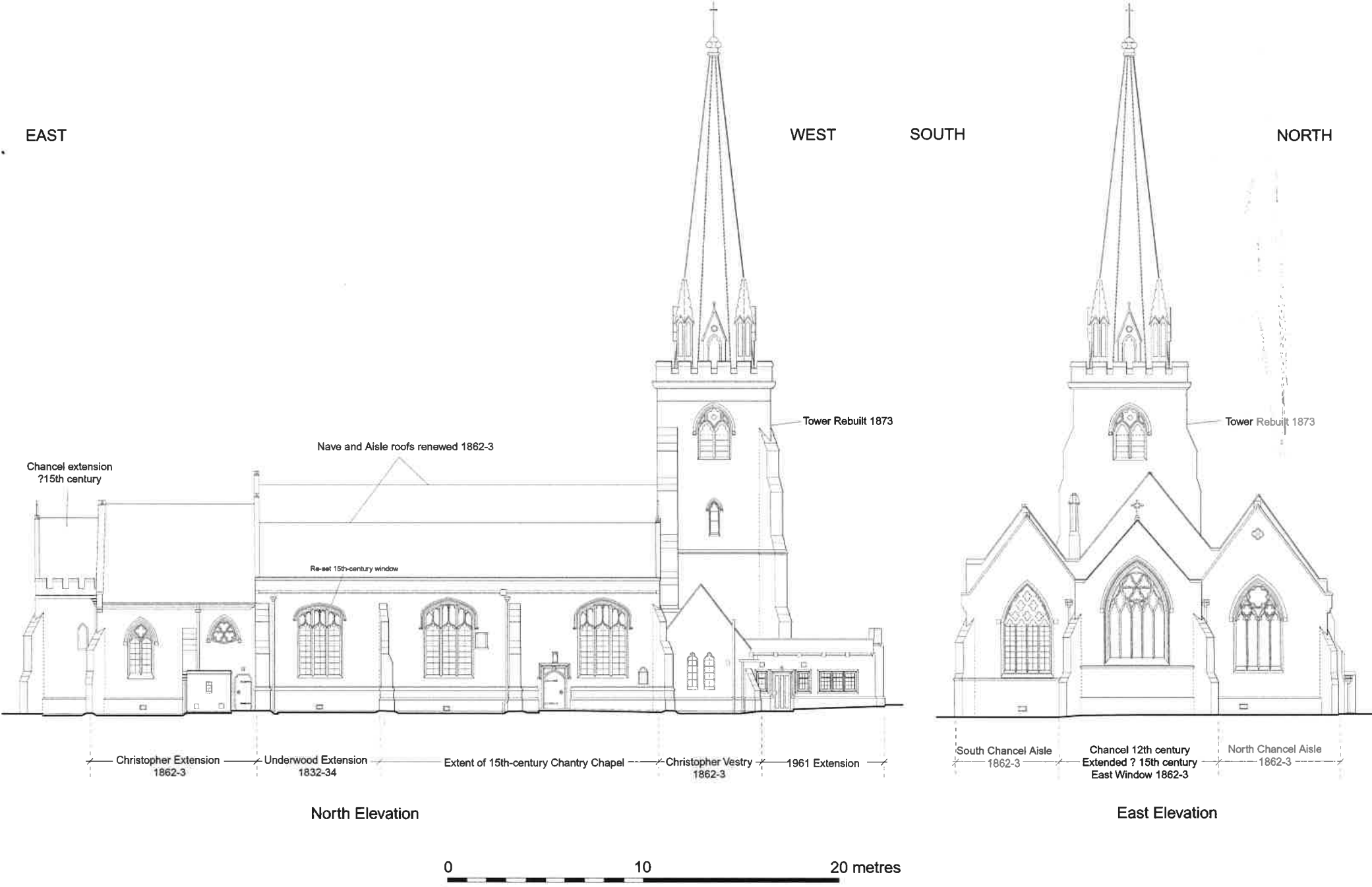
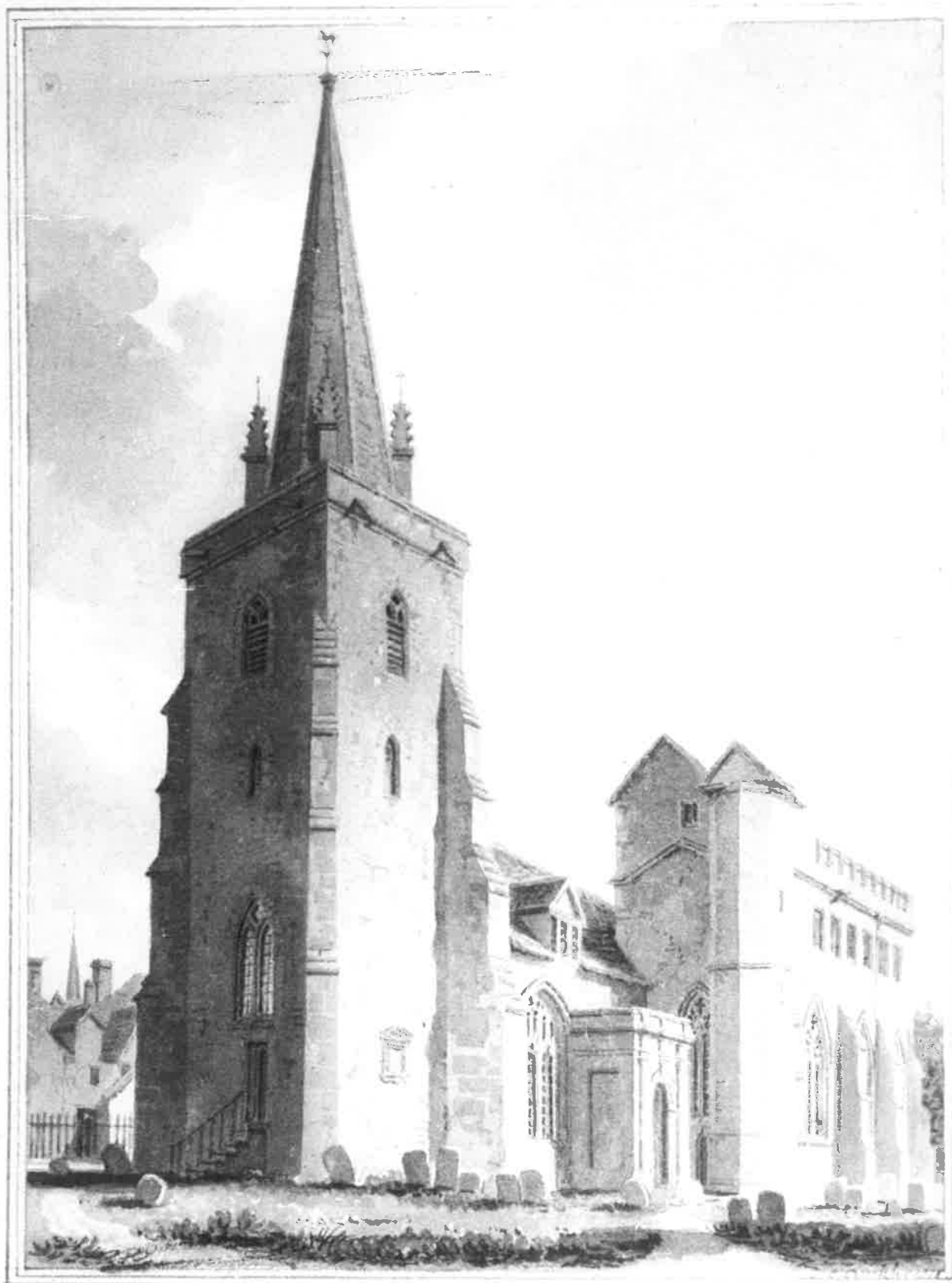


Figure 5: Exterior Elevations showing historic development; South and West



Based upon Survey of St Aldate's Church undertaken for Batterton-Tyack, Architects by MIDLAND SURVEYS LTD. (April 1997)

Figure 6: Exterior elevations showing historic development; North and East

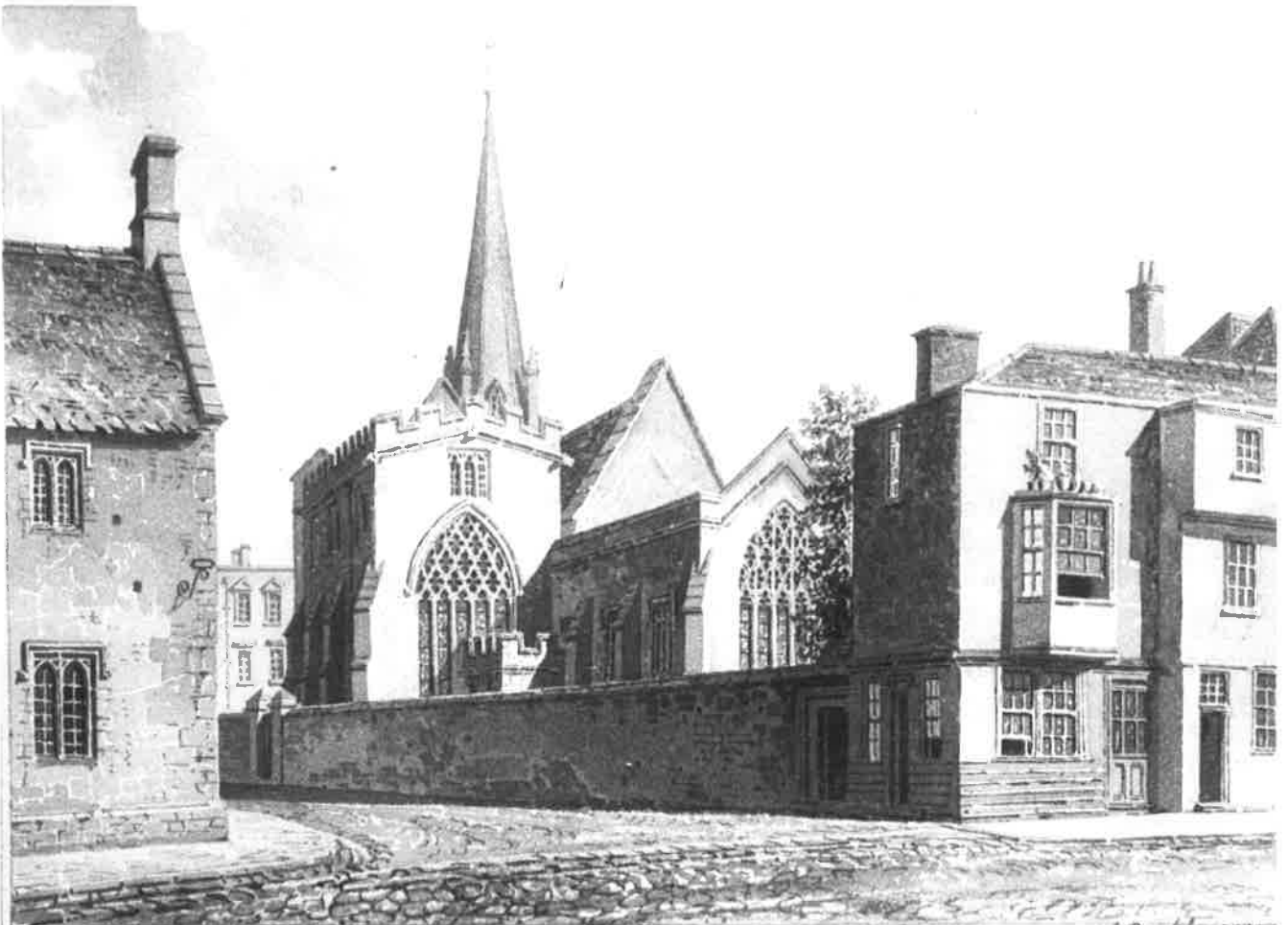


South West View of St Aldate's Church

Figure 7: JC Buckler drawing of St Aldate's from the south-west (1811-27); Bodleian Library MS. Don.a.2 No.15

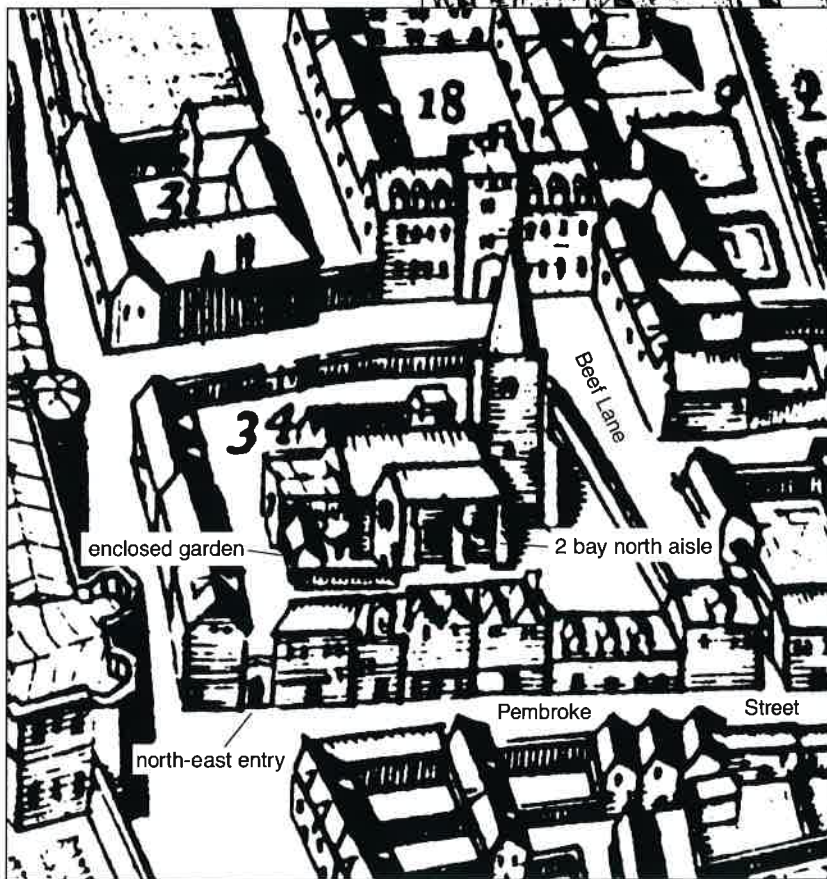
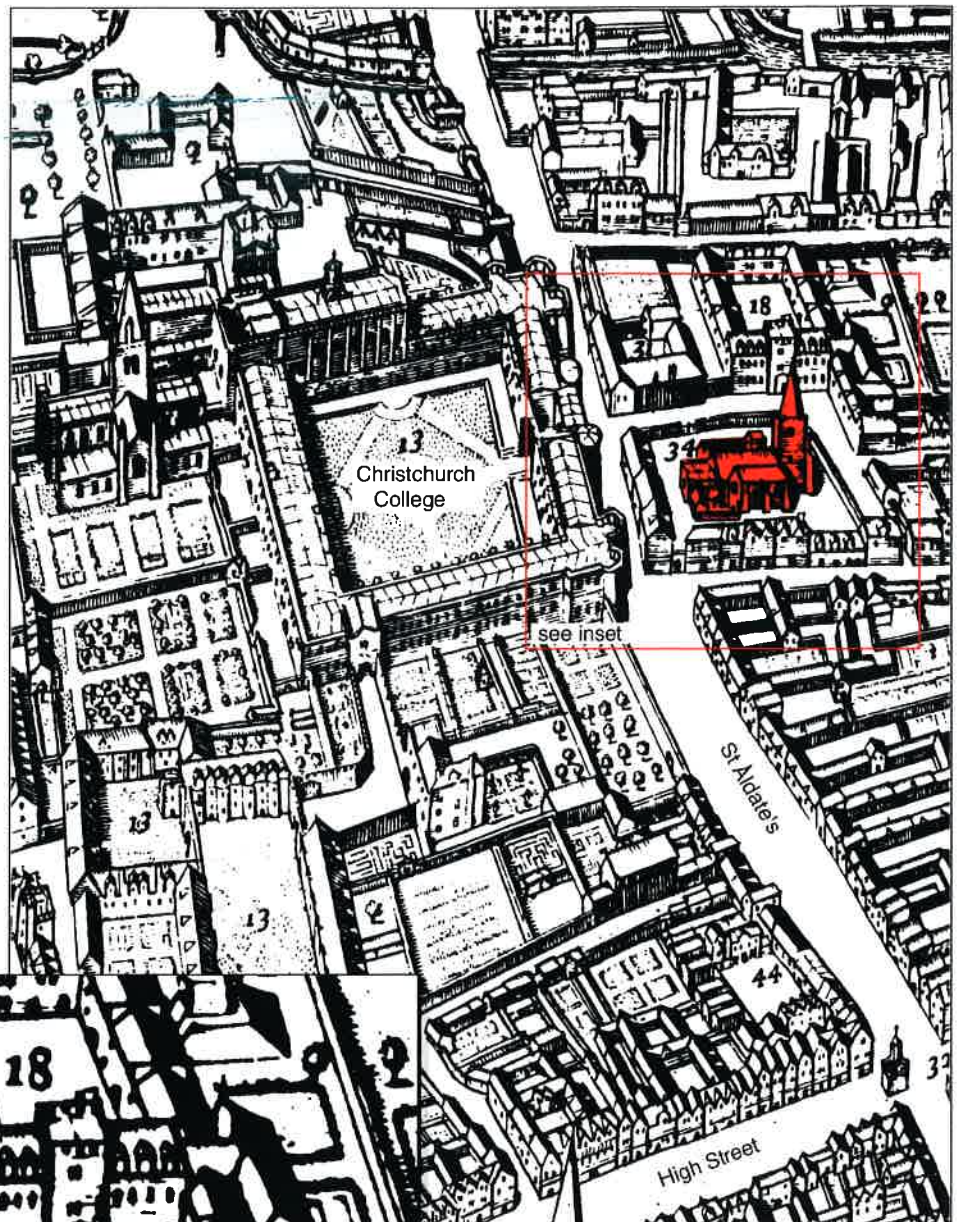


(a) Drawing reference: Bodleian Library MS. Don a. 2 No. 16



(b) Drawing reference: Bodleian Library MS. Don a. 2 No. 18 (note missing chancel roof)

Figure 8: JC Buckler drawings of St Aldate's Church and St Aldate's Street frontage from the east



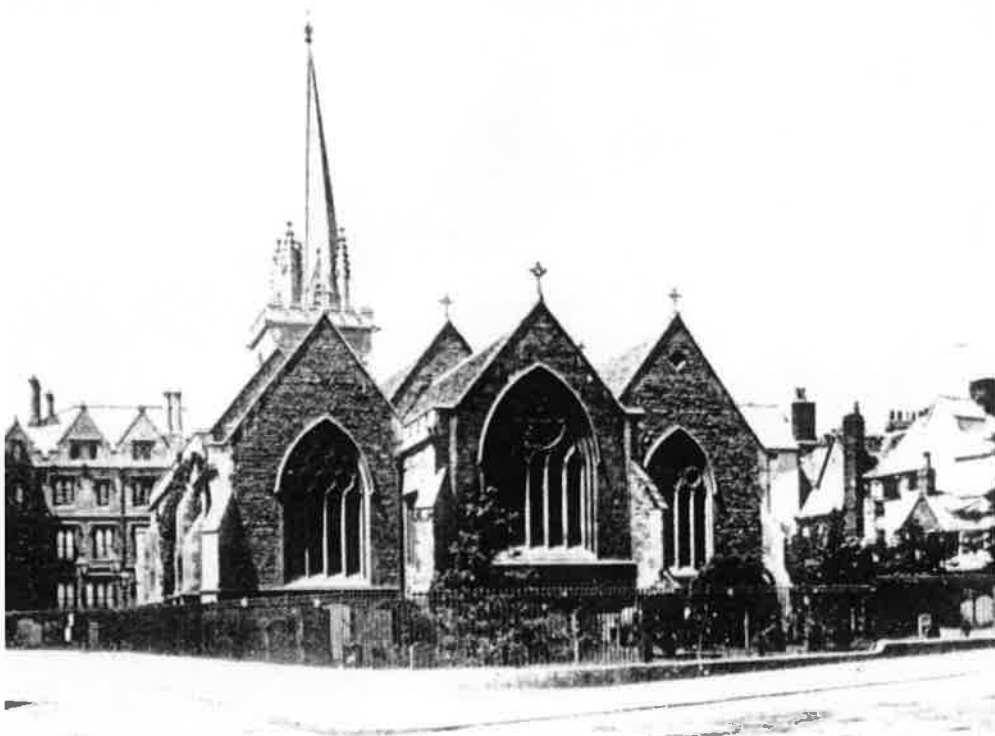
(N.B.: north to bottom of page)

Detail of St Aldate's Church

Figure 9: excerpt from Logan's map of 1675 (with inset detail of St Aldate's Church)



(a) c.1861; note West Family mortuary chapel at east end of south aisle



(b) c.1875; note extension of the south aisle (1862) and the rebuilt west tower (1873)

Figure 10: St. Aldate's Church from the east (a) before and (b) after TJ Christopher's reordering of 1862-63

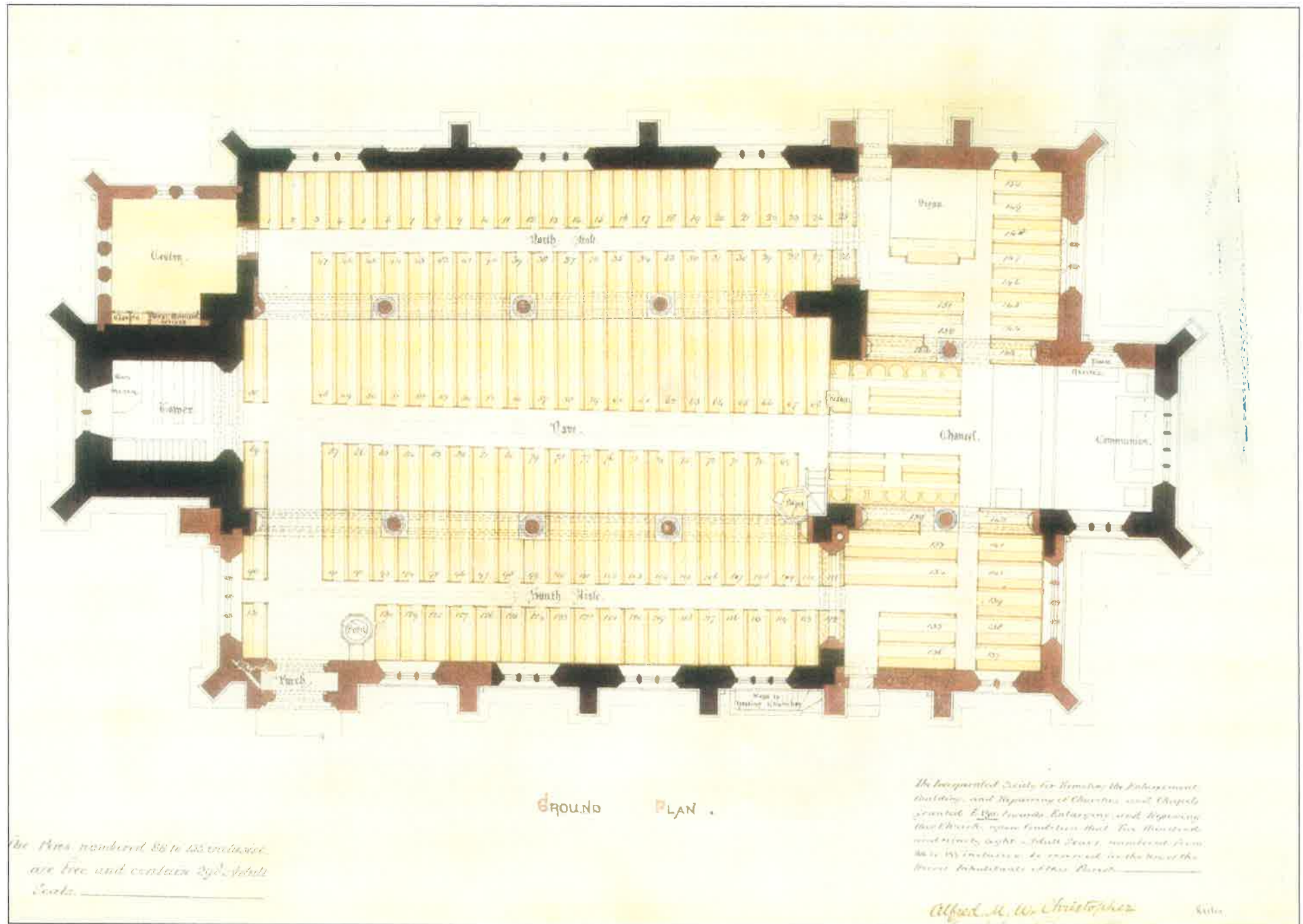


Figure 11: John T Christopher's plan 'Church of St Aldate as altered 1862-63' (new work in red)

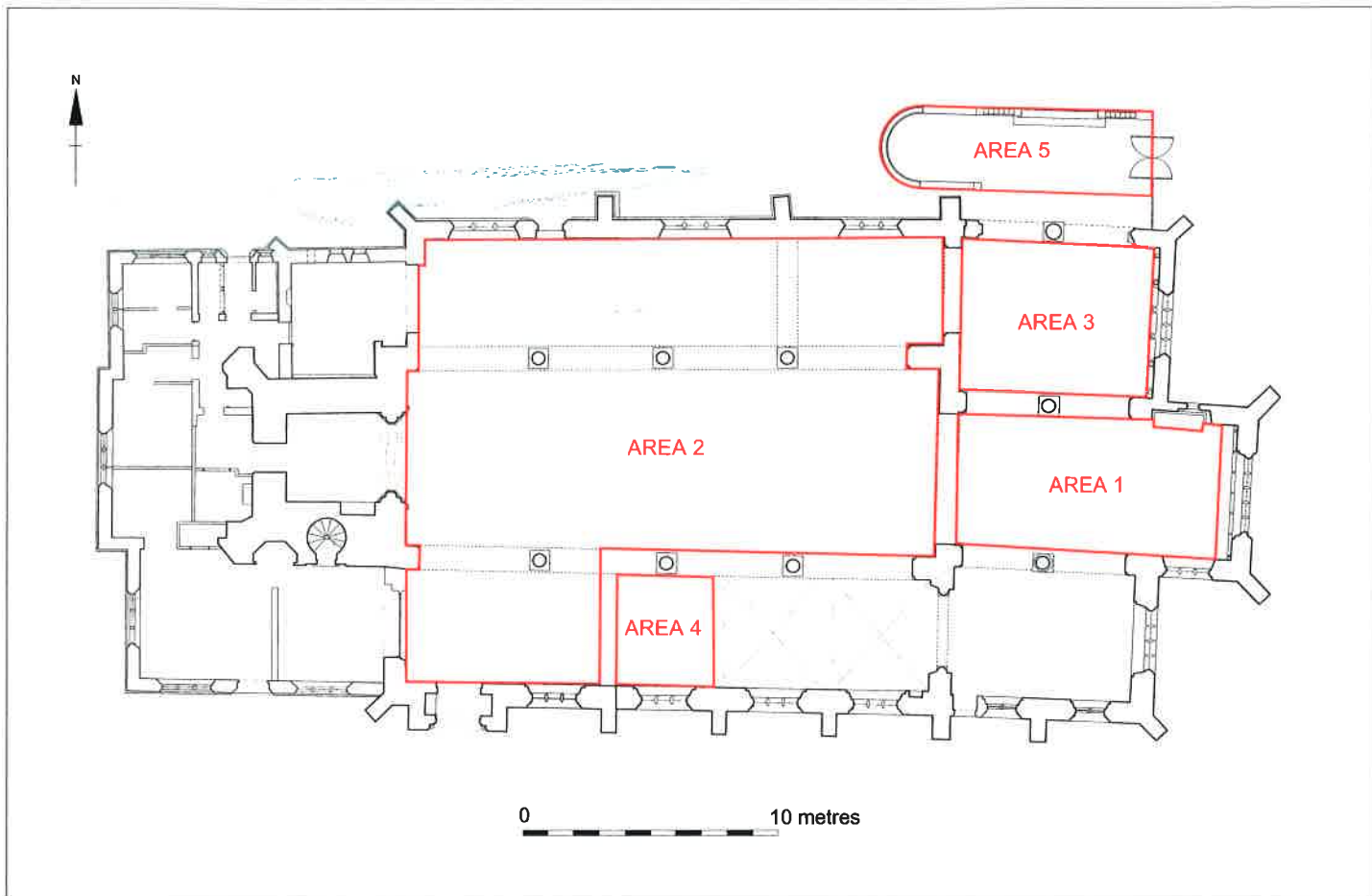
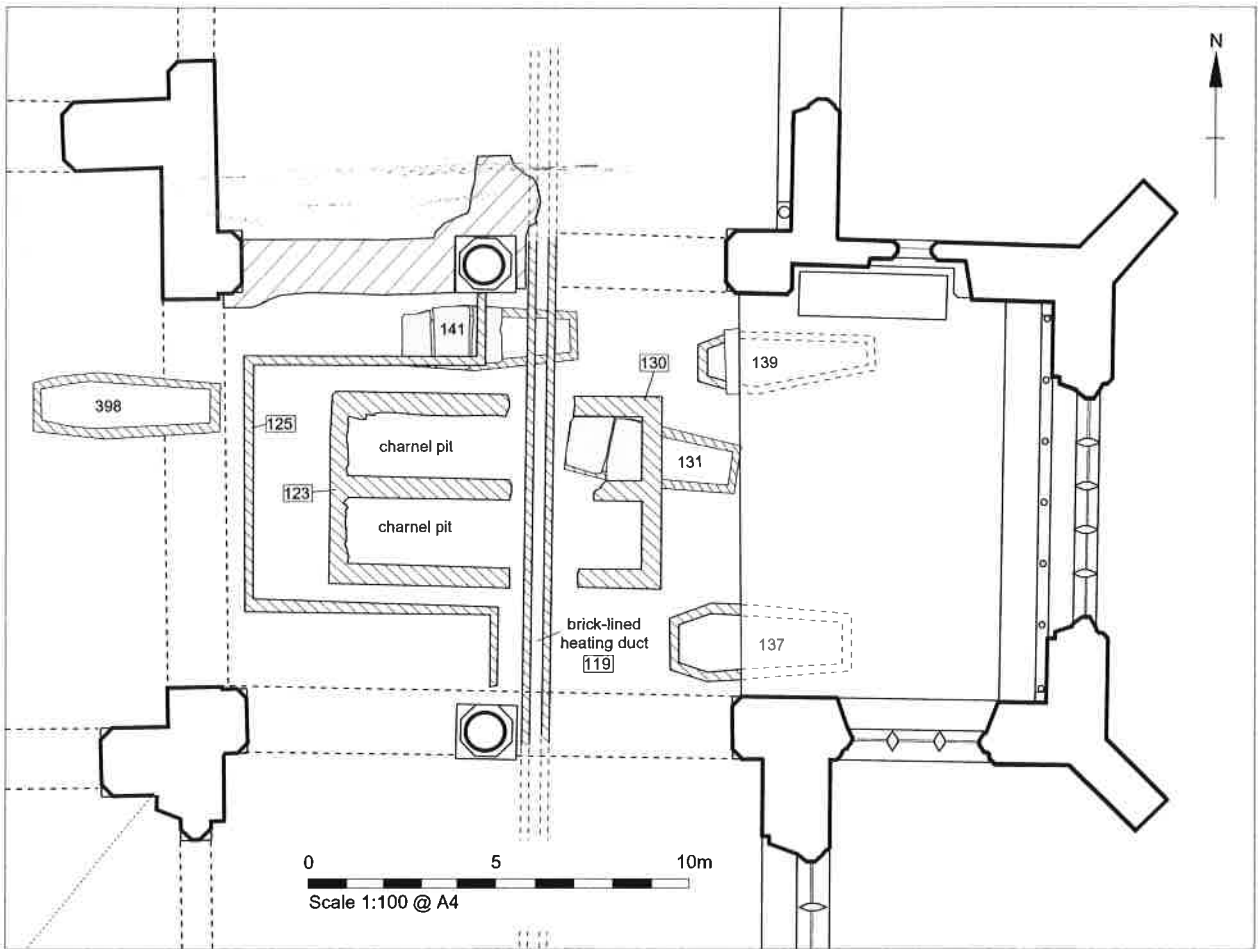
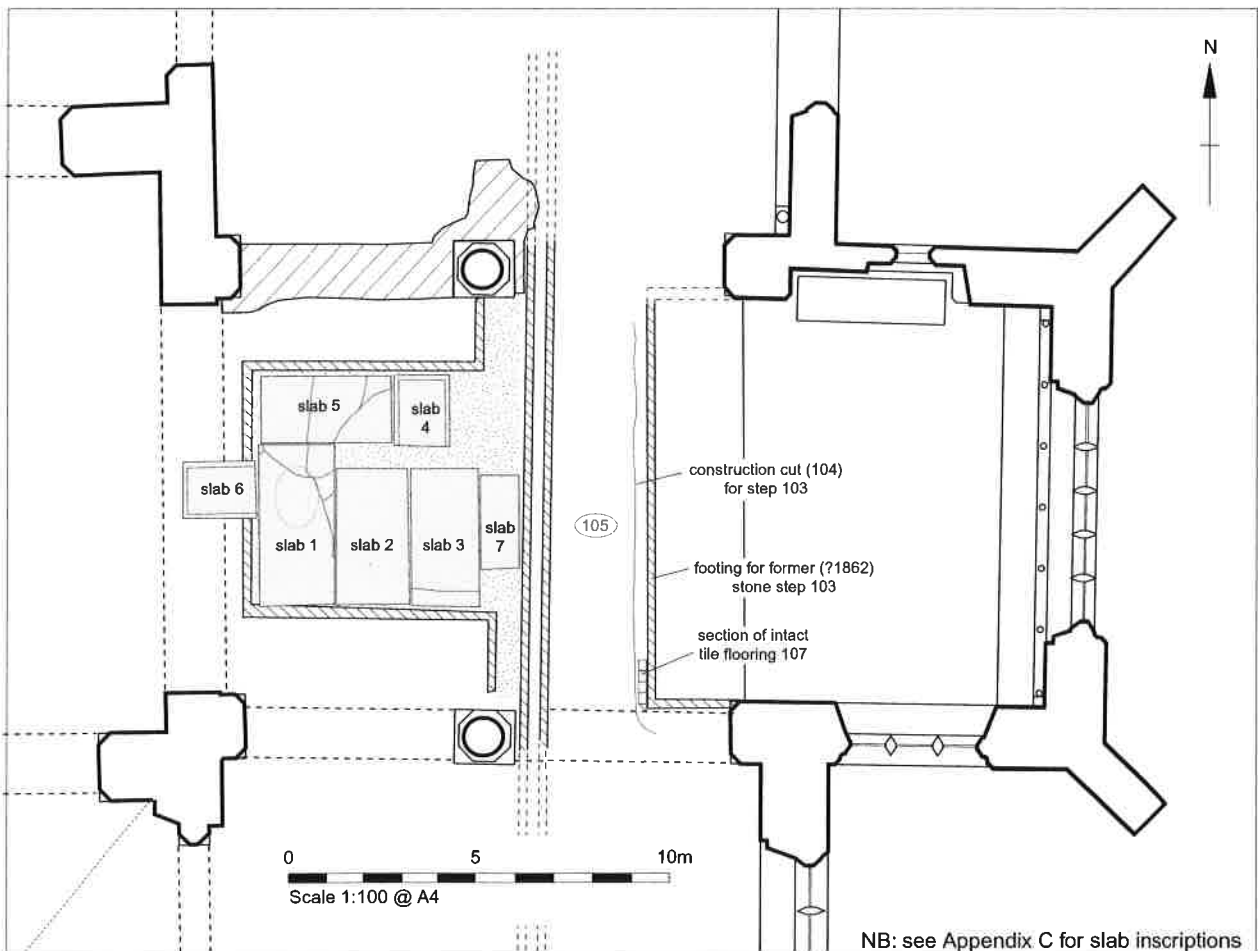


Figure 12: Excavation Areas

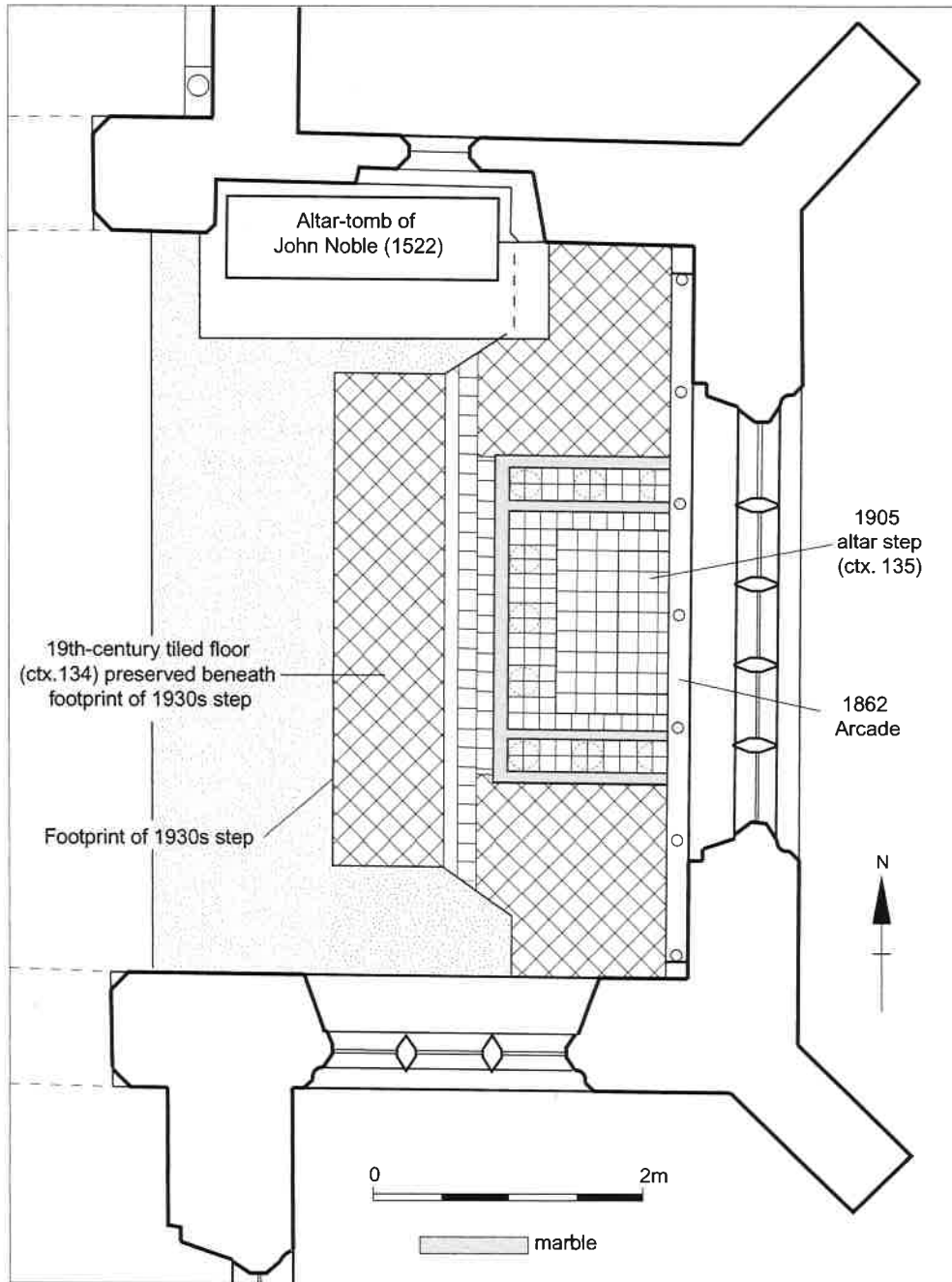


(a) Plan of chanel pit structure over 19th-century shaft graves

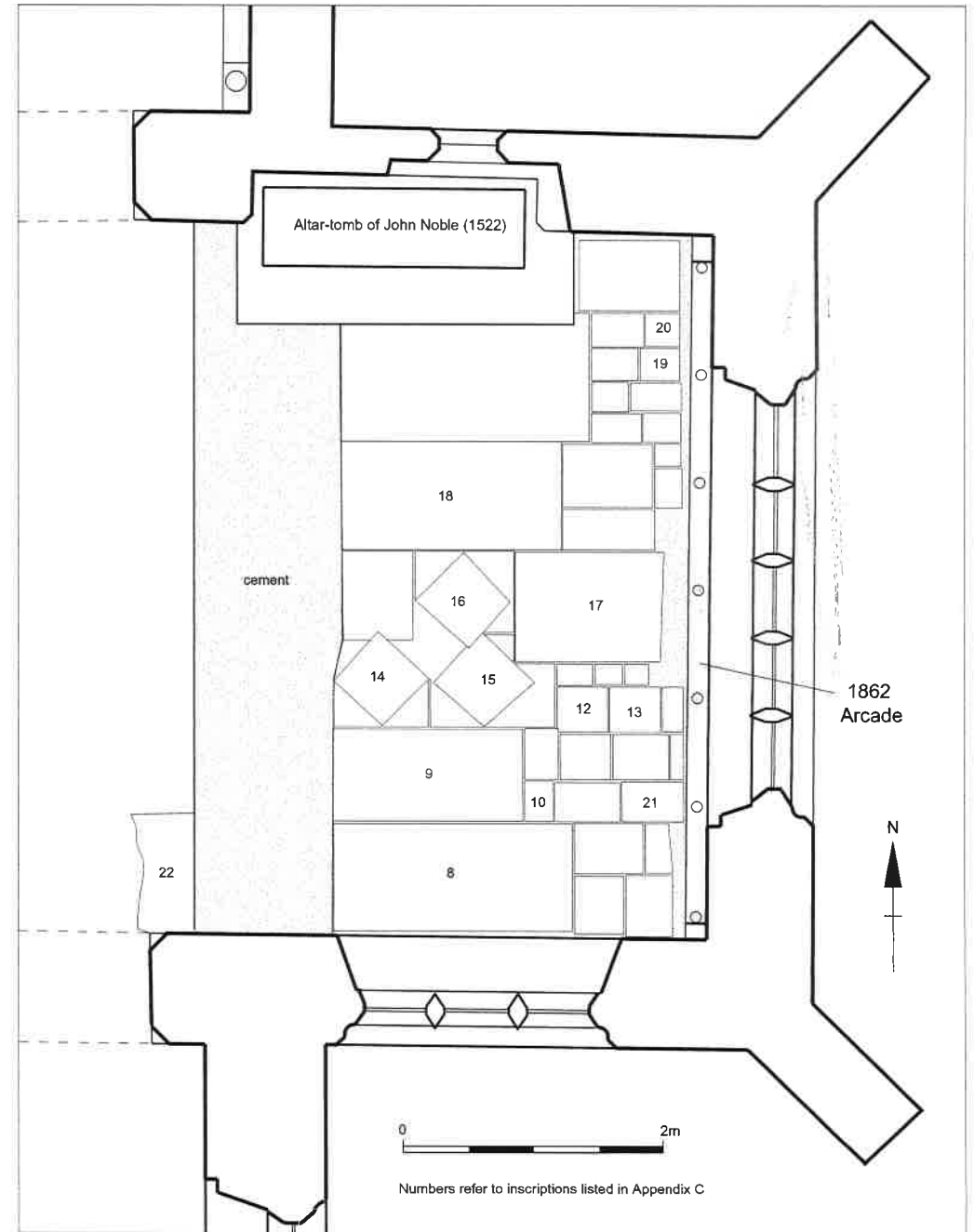


(b) Memorial slabs overlying chanel pit 123/130; former (?1862) altar step

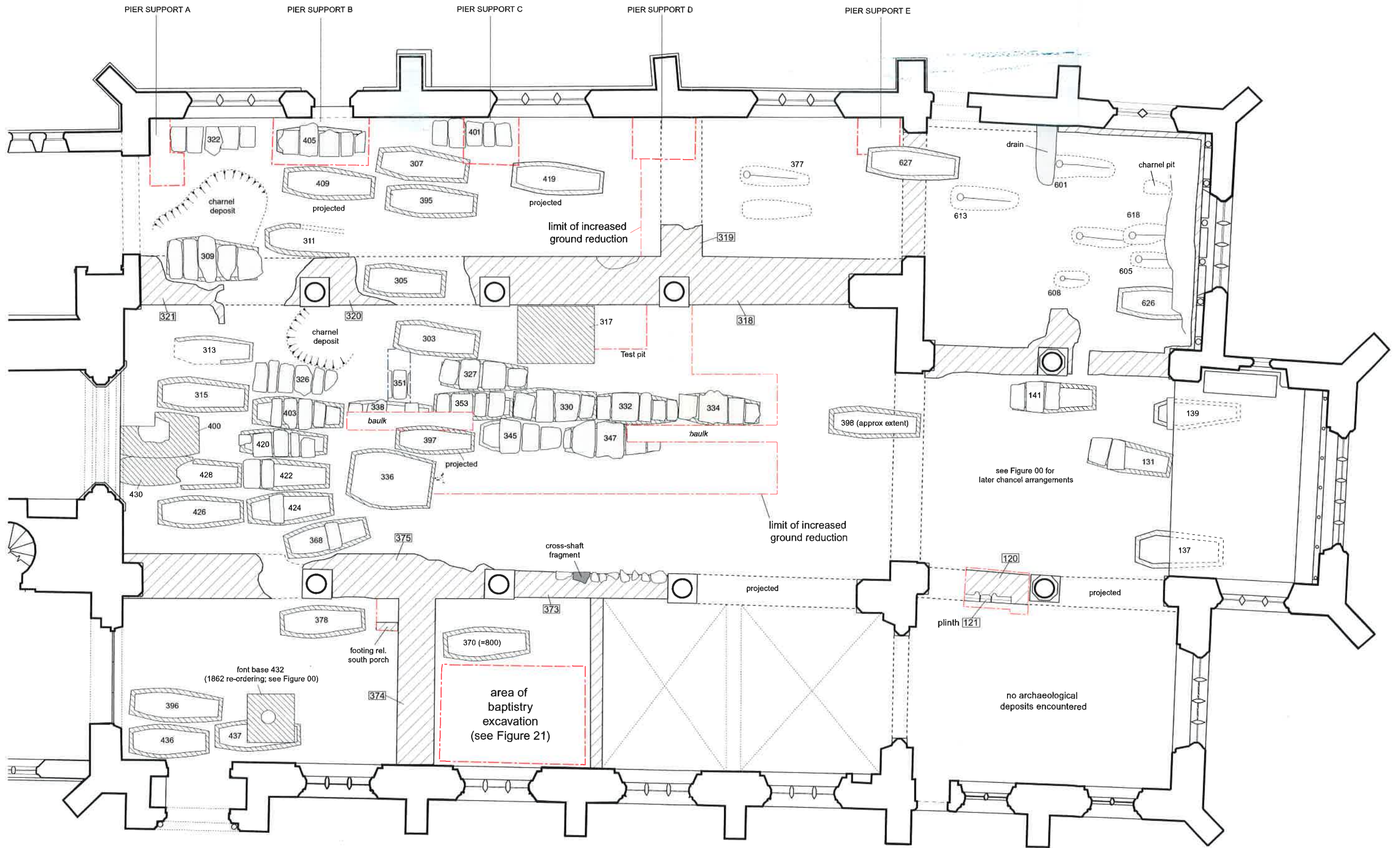
Figure 13: late 19th-century modifications to chancel



(a) 19th-century tiled floor and 1905 altar step exposed beneath 1930s marble



(b) lower level of altar step (ctx.136); location of inscribed memorial slabs nos.8-22



KEY





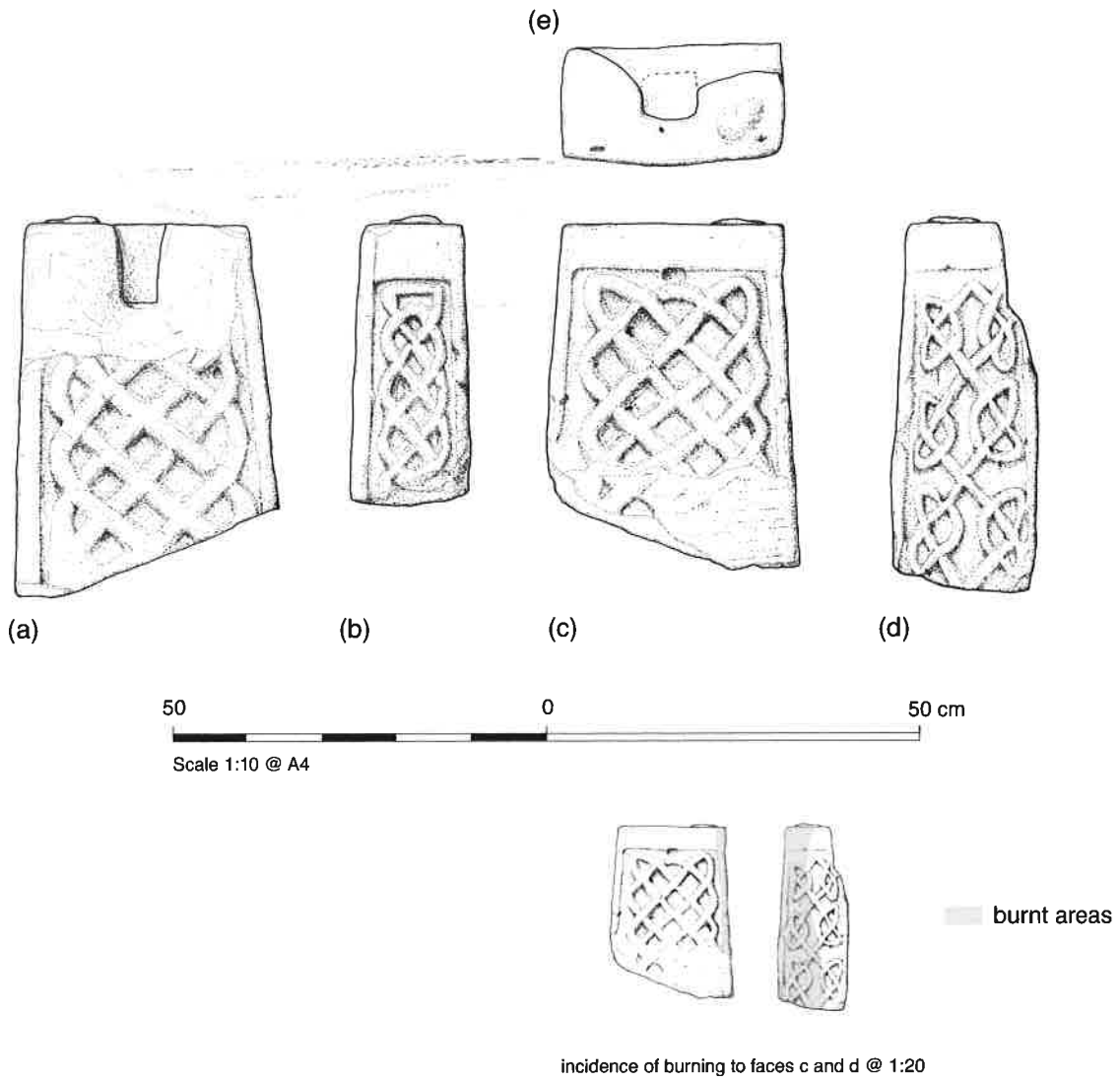
-  shaft grave without capping slabs
-  shaft grave with capping slabs
-  earth-cut burial
-  exposed wall footings



Figure 15: Main Excavation Plan



(b) cross shaft fragment *in-situ* in south nave wall (373)

Figure 16: Details of 10th-century cross-shaft



Figure 17: general view of church during ground reduction work (looking east):
note the concentration of graves in the centre of the nave
(Photo: David Stevens, Downland Partnership)



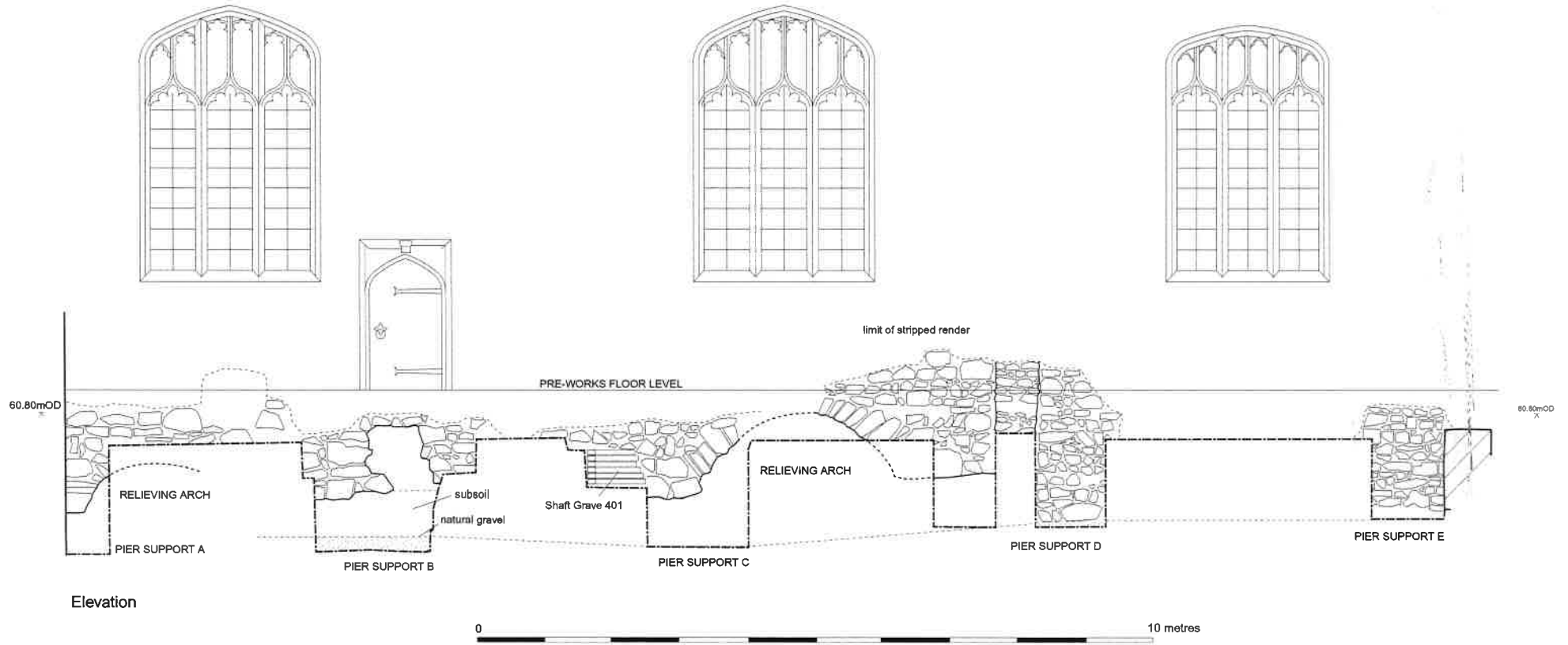
Figure 18: General view over nave looking towards north aisle showing concentration of shaft graves
(Photo: David Stevens, Downland Partnership)



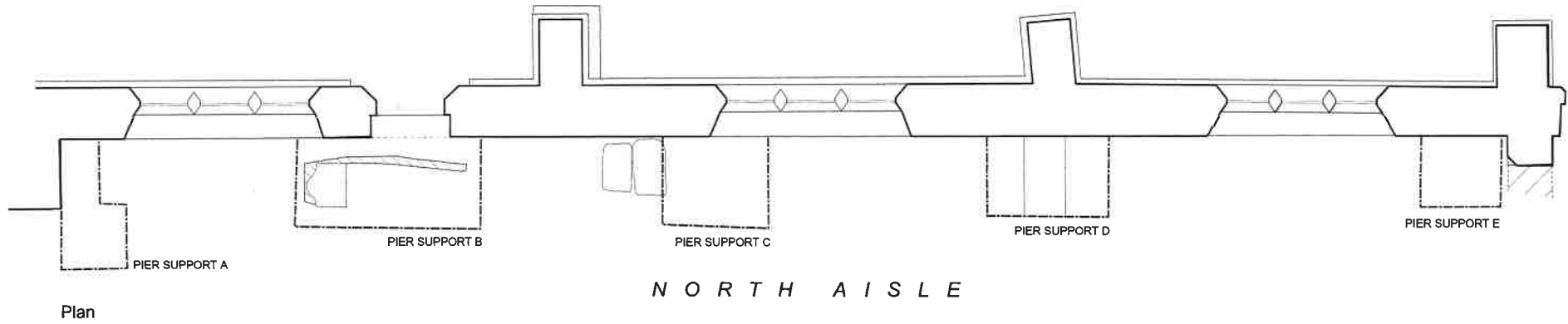
Figure 19: General view towards south aisle, earth-cut burial 377 in foreground
(Photo: David Stevens, Downland Partnership)

WEST

EAST

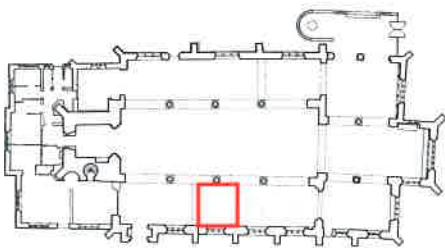
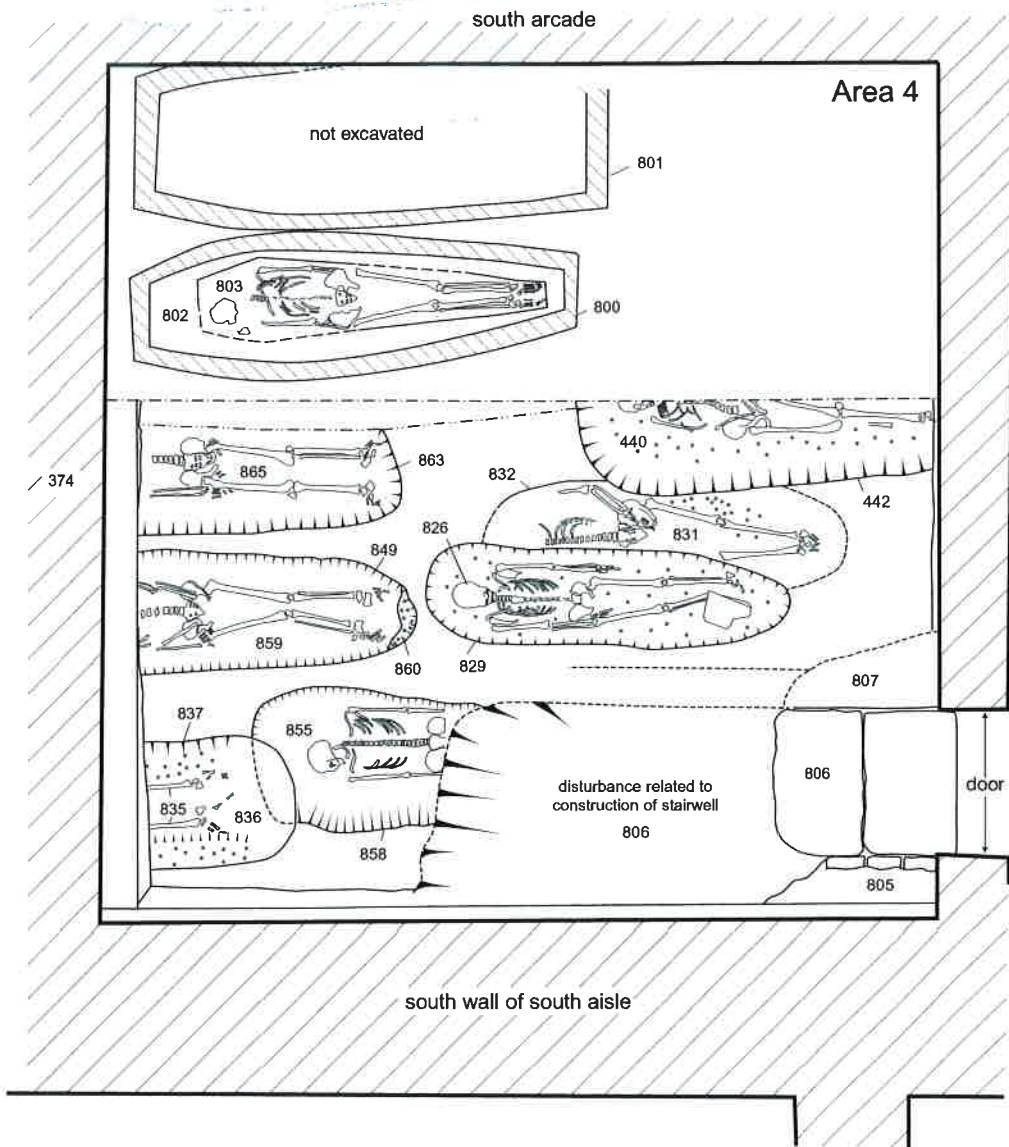


Elevation



Plan

Figure 20 : Details of north aisle wall exposed in pier support excavations



AREA 4 location plan

Figure 21: Composite plan of early burials (Area 4)

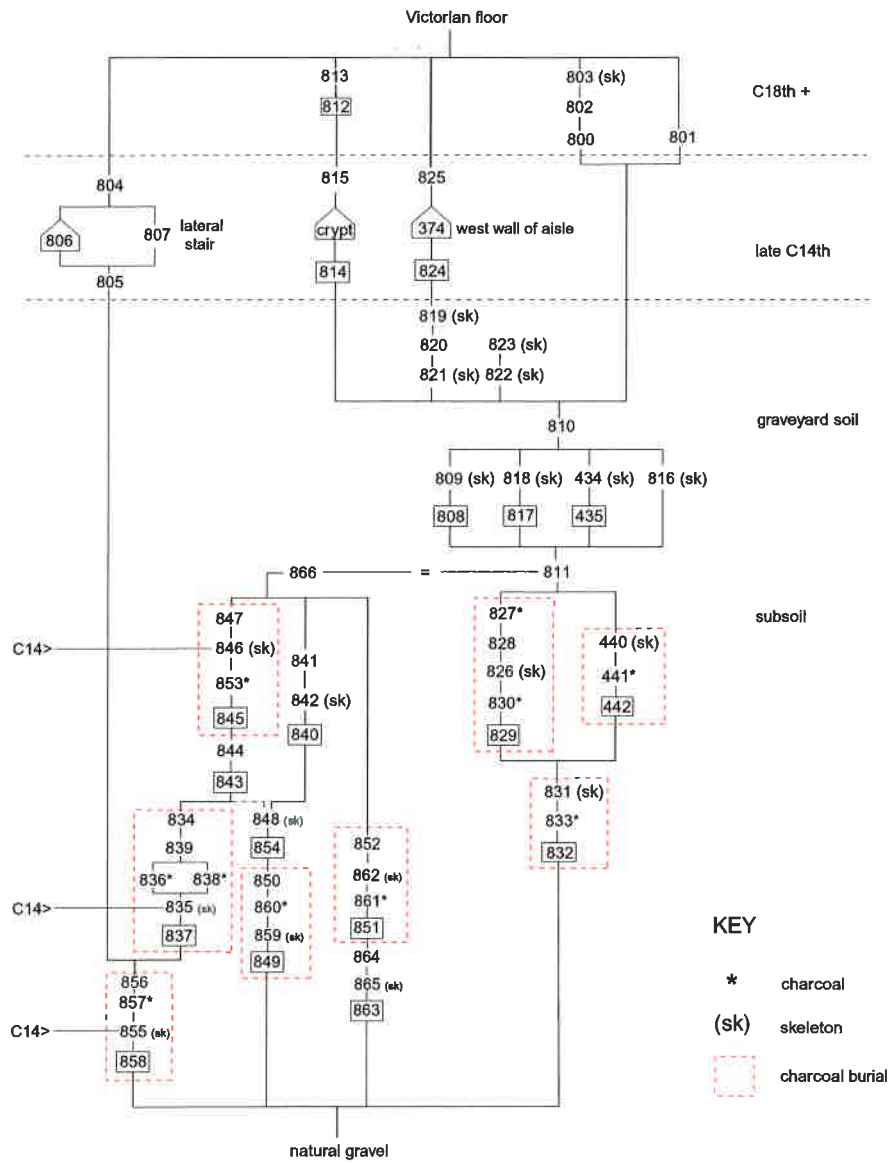
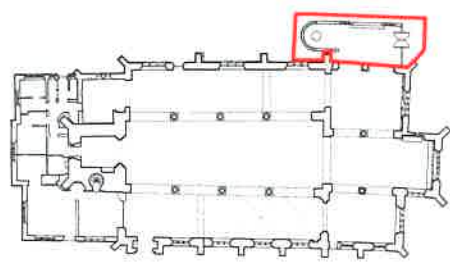
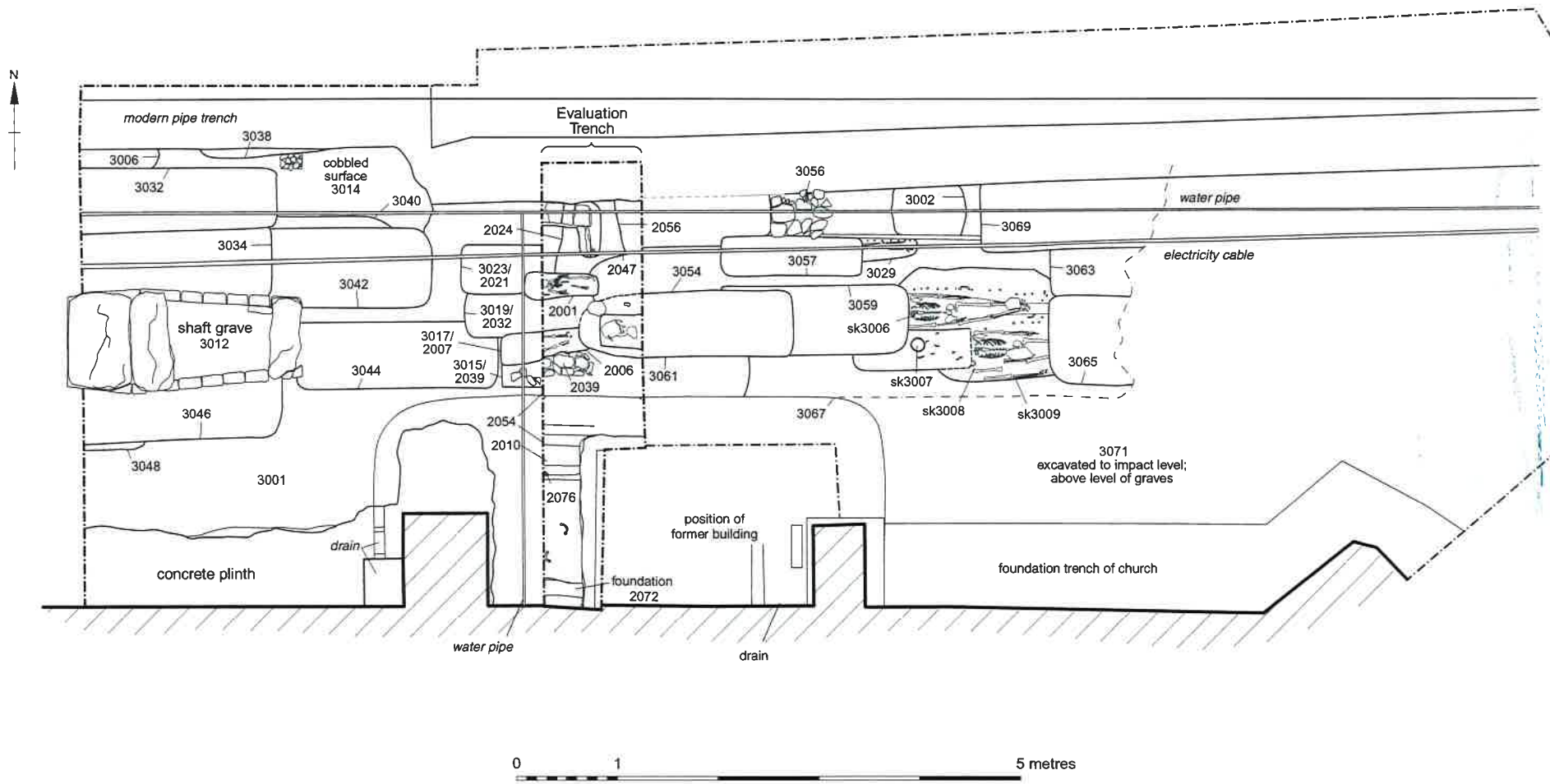
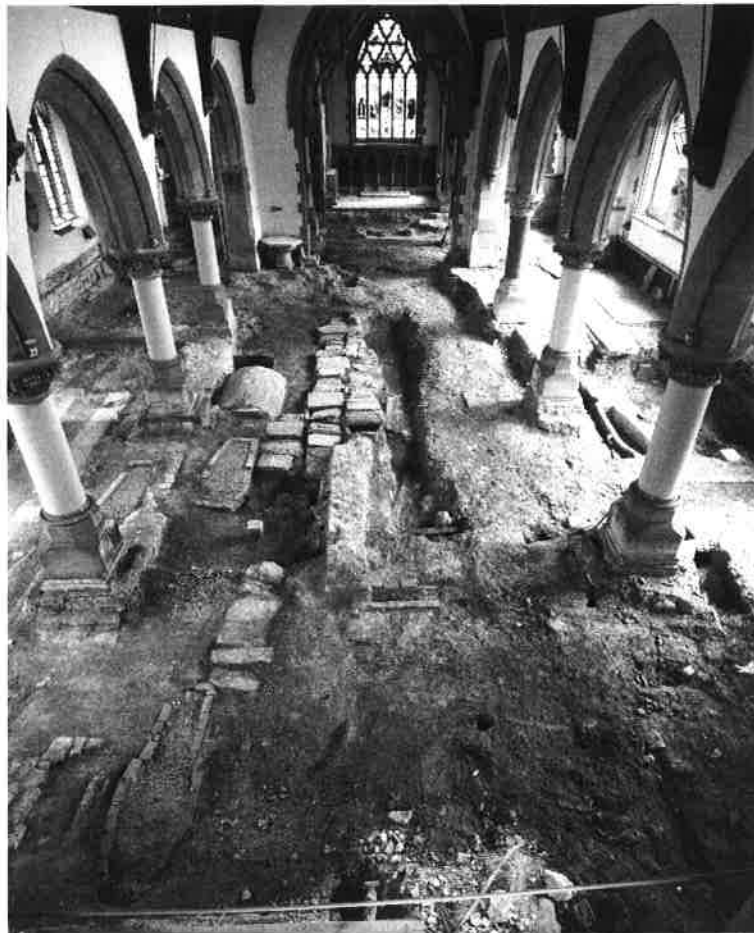


Figure 22: Area 4 Stratigraphic Matrix



AREA 5 location plan

Figure 23: AREA 5 exposed features



OXFORD ARCHAEOLOGICAL UNIT

Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES
Telephone 01865 263800, Fax 01865 793496
email: postmaster@oau-oxford.com www.oau-oxford.com

